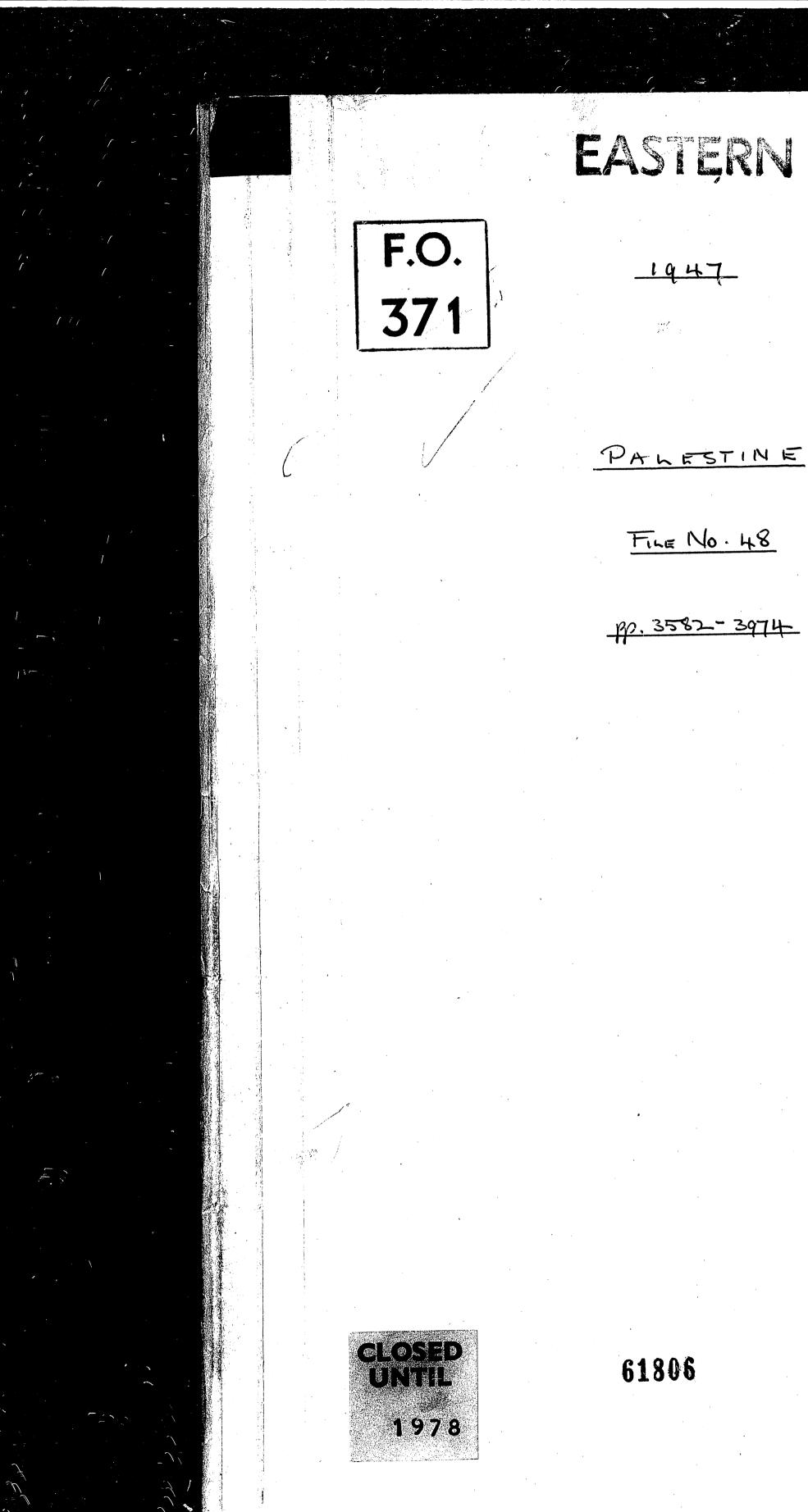
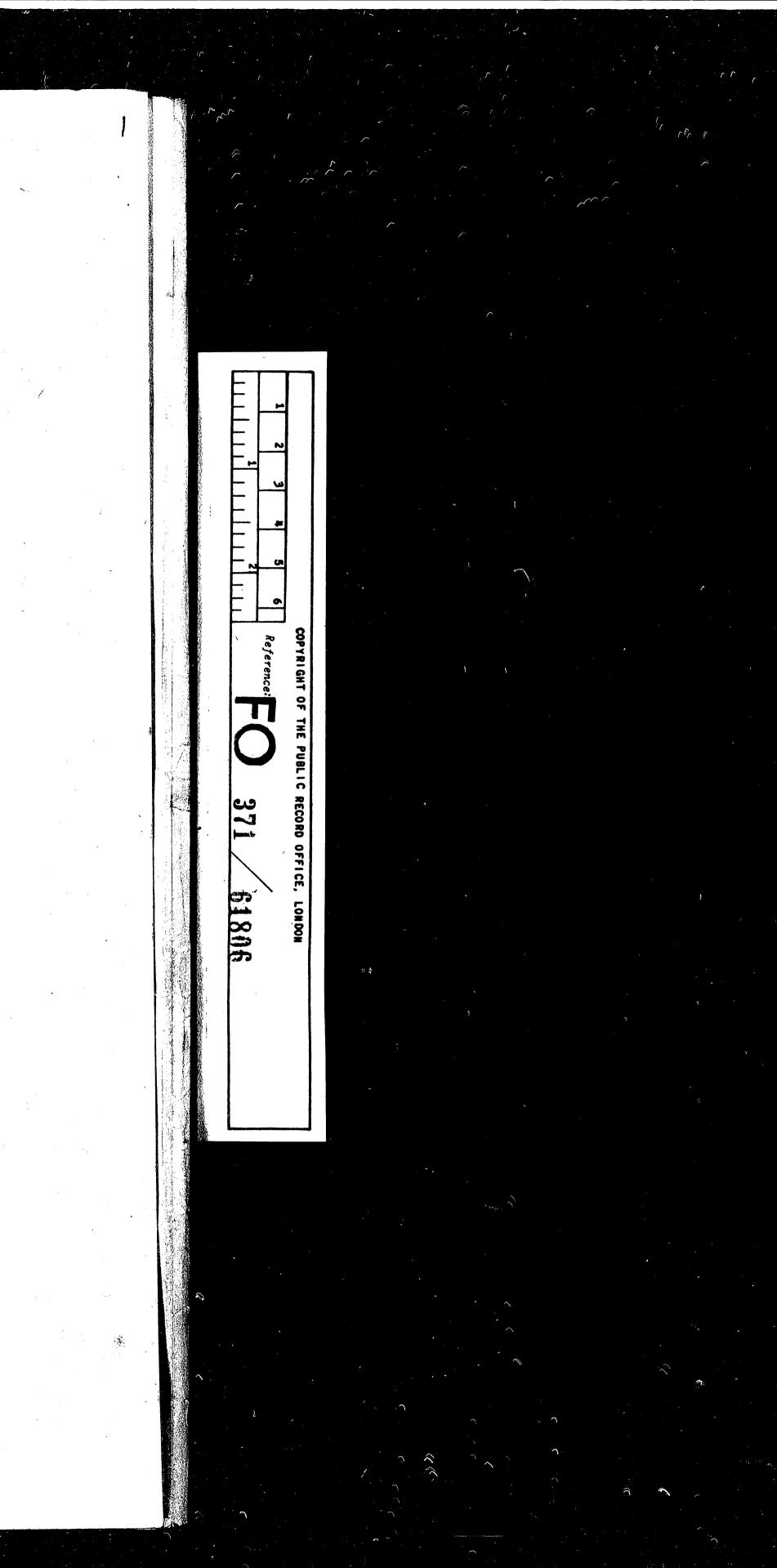
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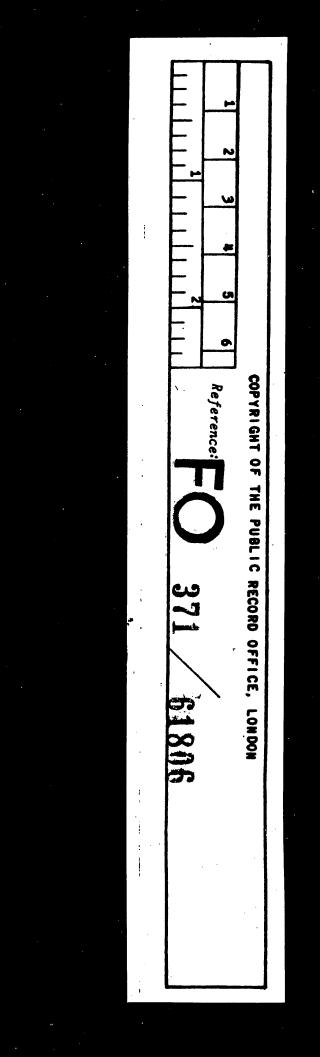
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Following document(s) retained in the

Department of origin under Section 3 (4)

of the Public Records Act, 1958

E3582/48/31



191 Z E_3584 PALESTINE 30 ATAN Allegal Immeration Arumania. $\frac{Registry}{Number} \} E 35 84/48/31$ Repen Ruchandt tel MIG (EBBY0/48/21) **TELEGRAM FROM** 11" Holman Rincesser purcher, the movement of Tem from Roumonia with Alungary er route for Palesting No. Bucharert. Dated $\left.\begin{array}{c} \text{Received} \\ \text{in Registry} \end{array}\right\} \quad \mathcal{H}\mathcal{H}\mathcal{A}.$ 29. apr 1947 30 Last Paper. (Minutes.) 35-82. where they win wonder 1. References. from Hungay - presumality to court? Adviatic me Copy & Bollgrade (Print.) Sontreg Dept. h.s. Beins (How disposed of.) May 1st & digham. Dodds & Ralmty Puith S Ralmty AB may 19 MIT forg P.J.O (Index. (Action completed.) Next Paper. E3612 32003 F.O.P.

3 9./ Belgndene. 328 Roml no. 386 (secret) May 7

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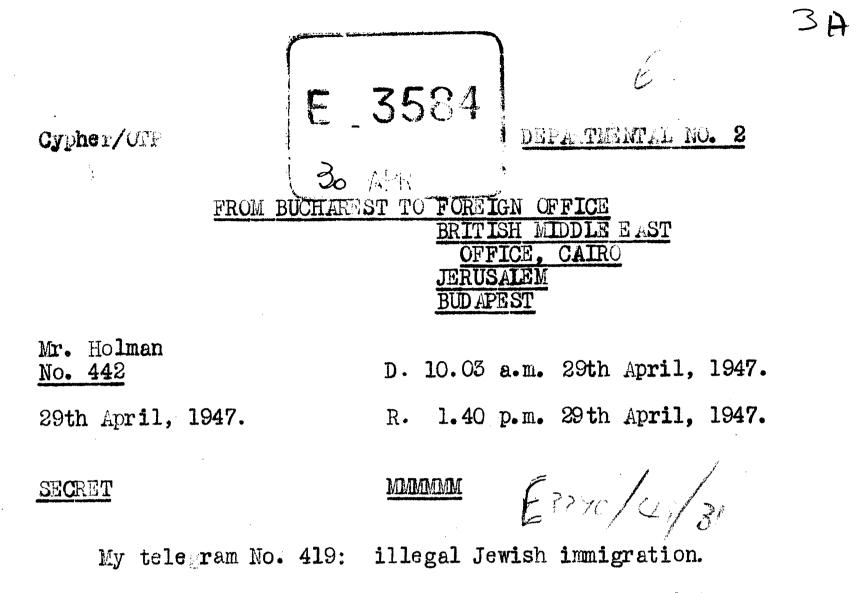
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From a letter to Jacobson, which was by chance intercepted by a member of my staff, I learn that the mass movement of Jews from Roumania into Hungary en route for Palestine has assumed such proportions that the Hungarian Government has informed the Budapest representative of the American Joint Distribution Committee that its Ministry of Social Welfare will cease to assist new arrivals of Jews as it has done in the past and that the Ministry of the Interior has been instructed to take measures to arrest and return to Roumania any Jews found entering Hungary from Roumania without proper travelling documents and visas.

2. There are over 5,000 Jews concentrated in Satu-Mare, Oradea, Arad and Timisoara, en route for Hungary, who are affected by this Hungarian order. The A.J.D.C. and Jewish Community Council are making efforts to maintain their homes and some have already arrived in Bucharest on their way back.

3. The Jewish Agency representative and President of the Zionists in Roumania have both addressed letters of protest

to sponsors of this mass movement, chief of which is Revisionist Group, calling upon them to stop this movement of Jews out of Roumania which they say will bring about a chaotic situation and will compromise Jewish prospects in obtaining a [gp. undec. ? reasonable] increase in immigration quota to Palestine.

4. In this connexion I am informed on fair authority that Groza is to be asked to press the Hungarians to rescind this order.

See my immediately following telegram not repeated to Budapest.

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Foreign Office please pass to Middle East Office, Cairo, Jerusalem, and Budapest, as my telegrams Nos. 6, 18 and 58 respectively.

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[Repeated to British Middle East Office and Budapest and copies sent to Colonial Office Telegraph Section for repetition to Jerusalem.]

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192 E 3612 MAY 1947 Allegal Jumgration, Roumand Report Berchanet til 442 (E 3584/45/21) Klatil TELEGRAM FROM M MCLINAM kitter alredy queted als all ges shat very No. Bucharett. Kary pressure a keing trought to hear your 14.0 of limensoon Tour Rist Dated H43. builte(Received in Registry } 29, April 194 } n ilen fork and upon the European rep in Johnung to appoint in KLARMAN MAJOC. rep. on Roumania mallice of THEORSON. 1. May 1947 Last Paper. (Minutes.) 35-84 Refryce Dept. for Nos. References. Bs. Band May Kr The last paragraph of this delegram night be made use of to show the a connection between the Revisionists and 37 the Communisto. "This night lead to a cooling of U.S. suffort (Print.) for the AJDC of it shows itself too acquiercent in the 61806 accommodating to the Revisionists. (How disposed of.) It night be useful to inform Sis G. Rendel in Geneva 81 Idig Lam ad for these events in order that, when our proposals about the transfer to IRO of the 16 6's responsibilities under the Paris agreement come up, he may be able to point D vol all . / dmith out to the americans that the logical consequence of farvey ; letting the AJDC have funds from reparations is the there MIT Avengethening of extremist clements This maker might Avengethening of extremist clements in Germany Equation. 3 also be brought to the notice of the U.S. anthorities Multillucinon 5 you May. PJ.O. washing ton Should we repeat Welkinsons M and Cyenera with (Index.) (Action completed.) trink though Inggest um wind link is not vory man 5 De ado phed Mrs. Juni Next Paper. chai however May 5 E3632 Drallts to brashin. 32003 F.O.P. 10 mars 10 / ughe L Genera

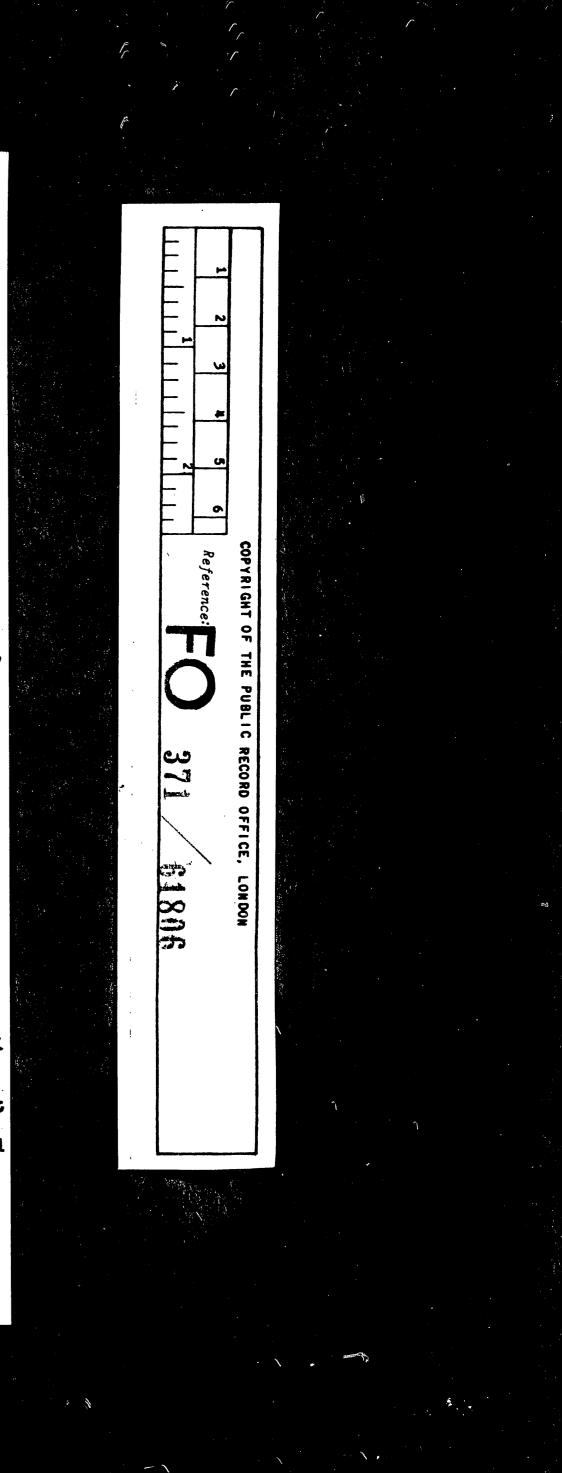
6 The question of preventing AJDC from receiving funds under the Paris ligneement on Reparations is temporarily in a beyance and I suggest that we should not press this particular point until she matter has been settled at a high level. aft. Blancery. (Seenet a Confidential) May 19 AWH WILLINSON 5 allow 13/5 hs. Beint May 19 19/5 37 61806

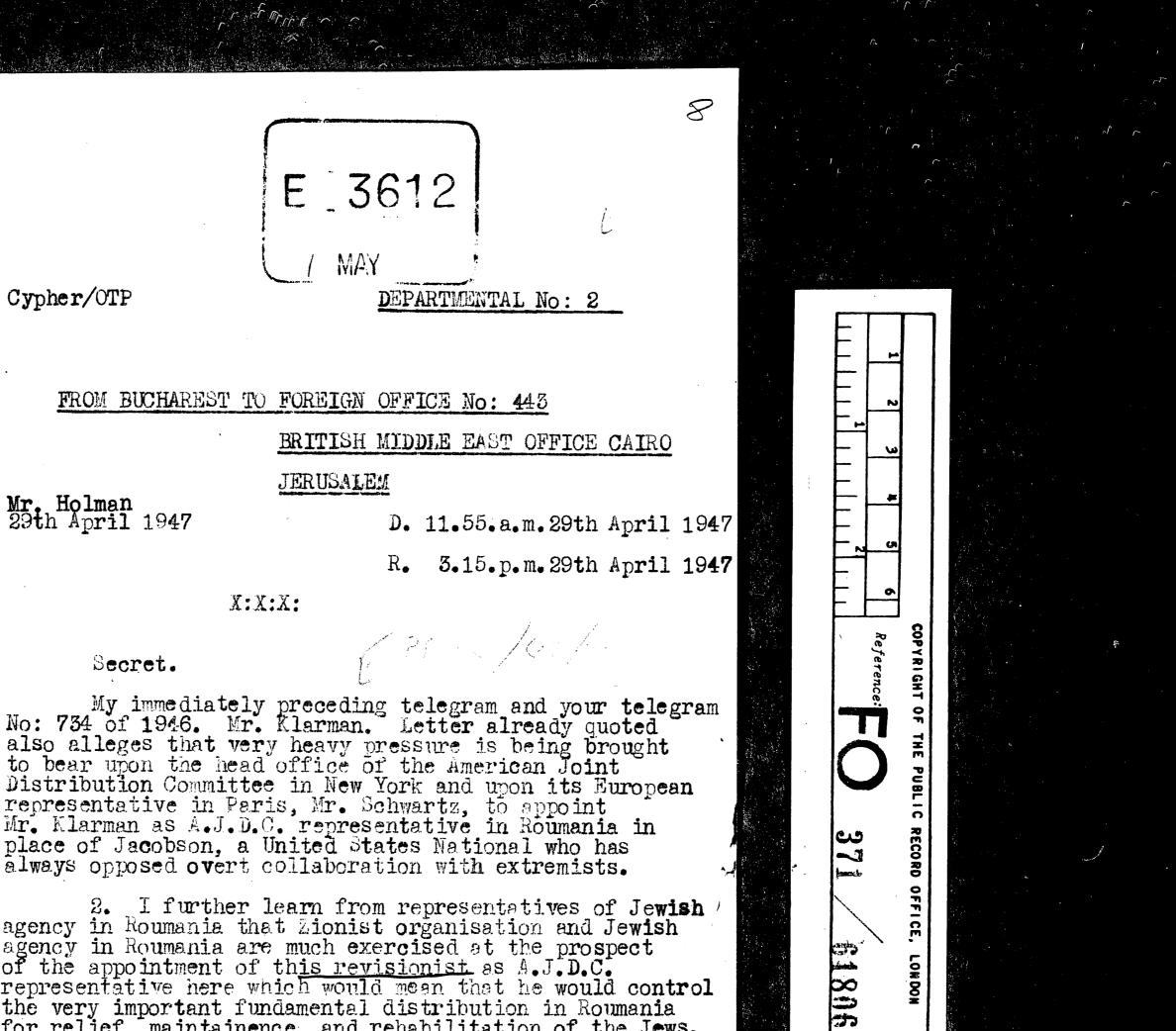
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Registry FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1. No. E 3612/48/31 J.E.G 9th May, 1947. Top Secret. Secret. Confidential. Restricted. I enclose a copy of Bucharest telegram Open. 443 about the A.J.D.C.'s representation No. Draft. Sir George An Rumania Rendel, You will notice that the Communist U.K. Delegation Geneva. MARGIN Segret Police are reported to have refused travelling facilities to Jacobson, a member THIS of the A.J.D.C. who is said always to have opposed overt collaboration with Extremists, WRITTEN IN in favour of Klarman, a Revi/onist. This suggests that the Revionists are actively From: supported by the Communists. Mr. Baxter. BE when your proposals about the transfer the helpige Dept 0 to I.R.O. of the I.A.C.'s responsibilities have singyested NOTHING Inat under the Paris Agreement, this information may possibly enable you to point out to the Americans that the logical consequences of MI May 10 allowing the A.J.D.C. to have funds from Please see munule Communista reparations would be the strengthening of Extremist elements. In view of the present U.S. attitude towards Communism you may find this a helpful talking point.





also alleges that very heavy pressure is being brought to bear upon the head office of the American Joint Distribution Committee in New York and upon its European representative in Paris, Mr. Schwartz, to appoint Mr. Klarman as A.J.D.C. representative in Roumania in place of Jacobson, a United States National who has always opposed overt collaboration with extremists.

agency in Roumania that Zionist organisation and Jewish agency in Roumania are much exercised at the prospect of the appointment of this revisionist as A.J.D.C. representative here which would mean that he would control the very important fundamental distribution in Roumania for relief, maintainence, and rehabilitation of the Jews. It would also mean that he would, in fact, dictate the emmigration policy hitherto handled by Jewish agency.

3. Both the Jewish agency and the Zionist Committee here are so perturbed at the prospect of this appointment, which they find extremely embarrassing at the present and potentially threatening for the future, that they have sent Mr. Costescu, an influential Jew connected both with A.J.D.C. and Doctor Filderman, to Paris to oppose the project which apparently is strongly favoured by New York.

· 4. Communist Secret Police at Bucharest refused travelling facilities to Mr. Jacobson himself in spite of strong intervention by United States political representative.

Foreign Office please pass to British Middle East Office Cairo and Jerusalem as my telegrams 7 and 19 respectively.

[Repeated to British Middle East Office Cairo and copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem.]

Registry No.E 3612/48/31 J.L.C Top-Secret. Secret. Confidential. errichede. Draft The Chancery, Washington. THIS MARGIN. WRITTEN IN From: Eastern Dept. BE 10 NOTHING JB May 10 88

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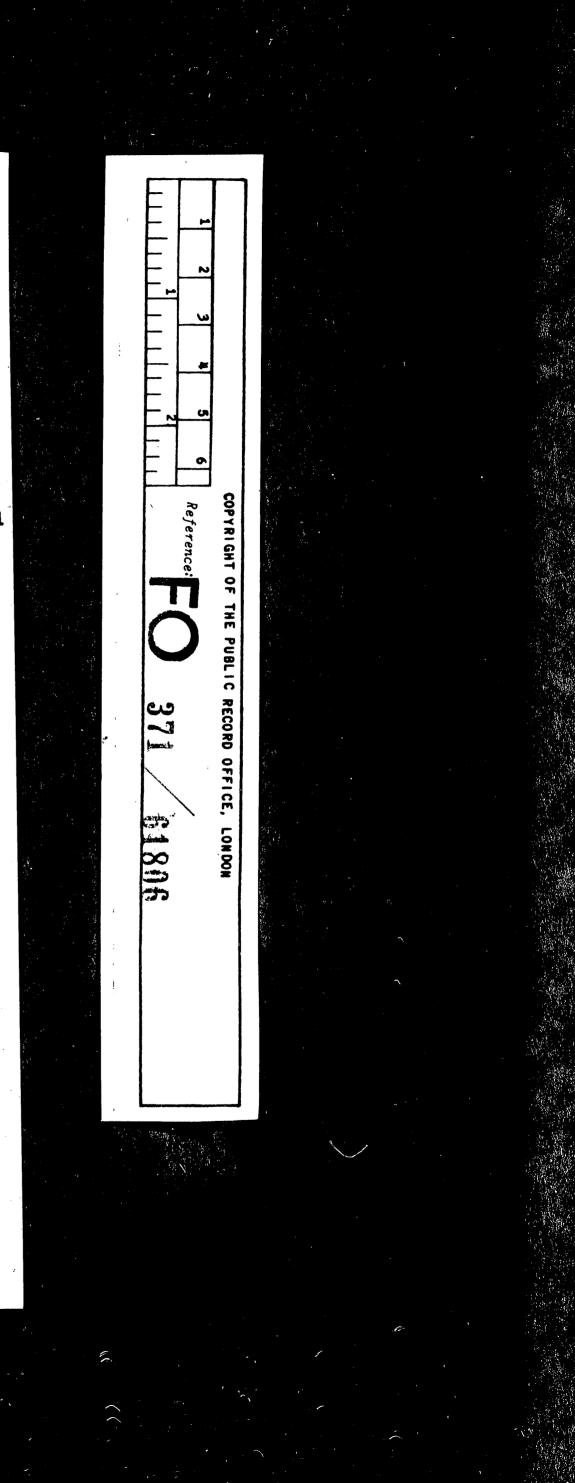
Dear Chancery,

We enclose a copy of Bucharest telegram No: 443 about A.J.D.C.'s representation in Rumania.

You will notice that the Communist Secret Police are reported to have refused travelling facilities to Jacobson, a member of the A.J.D.C. who is said always to have opposed overt collaboration with the Extremists, in favour of Klarman, a si Revionist. This suggests that the Revionists are actively supported by the Communists and the information may possibly be of use to you as a talking point with U.S. officials, in view of the present U.S.attitude towards Communism.

Yours ever,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.



OUT FILE FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1. 164h May, 1947.

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(E 3612/48/31)

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Dear Chancery,

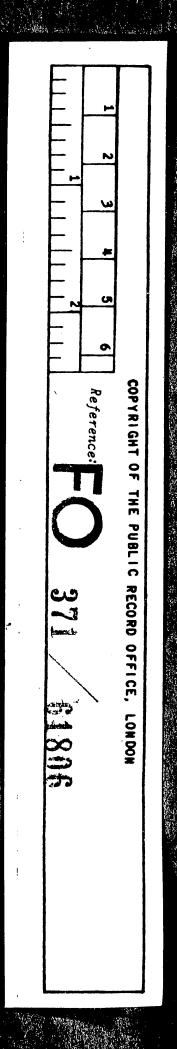
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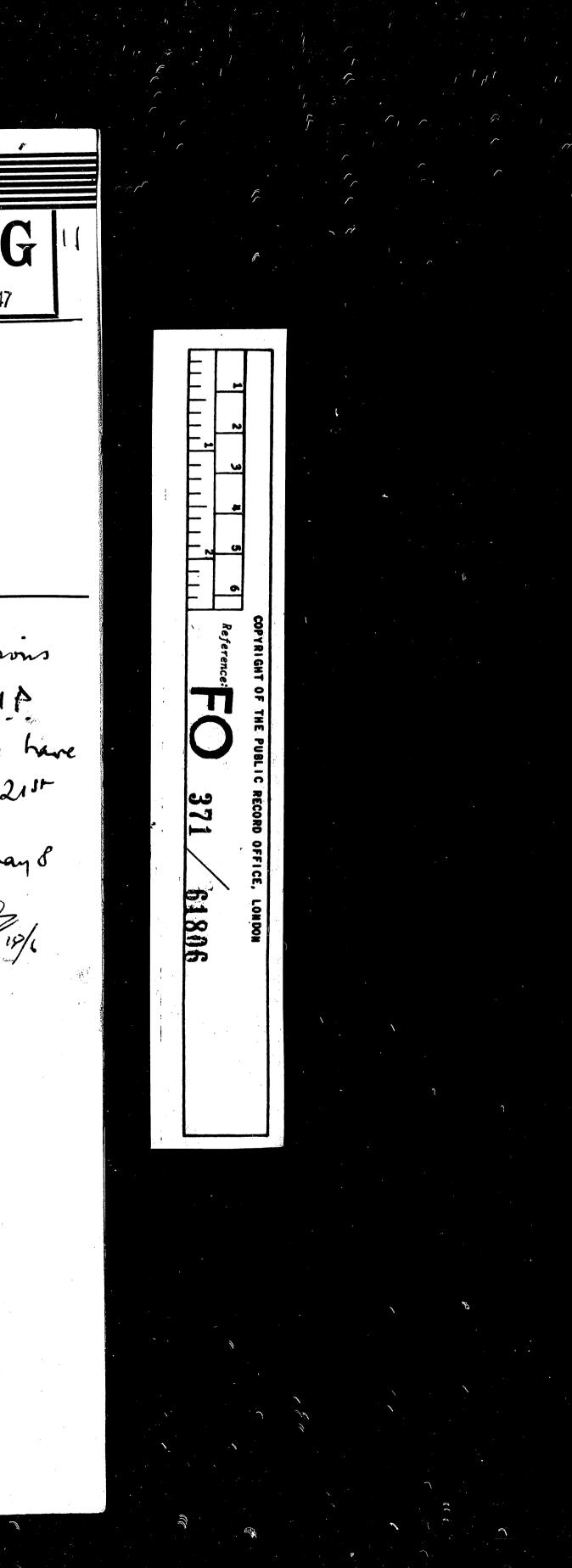
Yours ever,

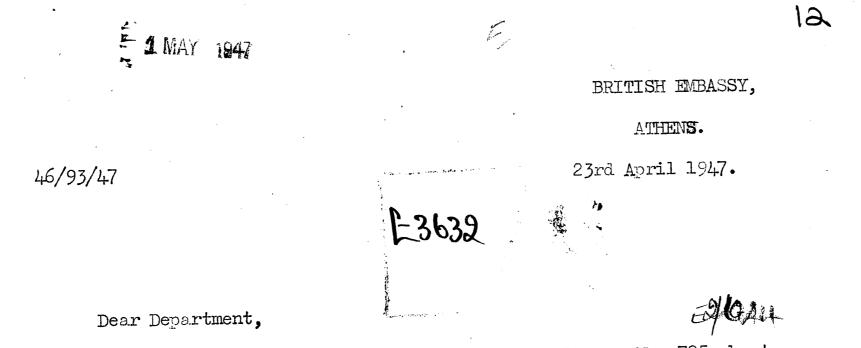
EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

The Chancery, British Embassy, Washington.



E3632 /G alistine EASTERN 103. 1947 1 MAY 1947 E 3632 W8G Illegal lunigention Athens Chancesep to Fastera Department 46/93/4 f april 2370. Last Paper. (E 3379) E 3582 (Minutes.) This win he met by Suggestions now being preparer by the 11A References. E JEAN. (ne stich an in particular). We have F=2249 4819 systed to the letter of Feb. 21st E1807/48/9 E2144/48/9 JB may 8 Du hay 20 (Print.) (How disposed of.) (Index.) (Action sompleted.) lug th. Next Paper. E3667 30471 F.O.P.





With reference to Foreign Office telegram No. 725 about the illegal immigration of Jews into Palestine, you will by now have received a copy of the Note No. 127 which, as instructed, the Ambassador addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 1st April. You will also have seen M. Tsaldaris's reply to that Note, and our rejoinder thereto, in which we have again requested the cancellation of registration of the three vessels named in your telegram under reference. We are now writing to you in order to pass on a considerable amount of information on the shipping side of the Jew traffic, which has been compiled by H.M. Consul at Piraeus. We enclose several extracts from his reports from which you will see that certain Greek shipping circles appear to be extremely heavily mixed up in the trade.

In paragraph 3 of your telegram No. 606 of the 15th March, you told us that you would be telegraphing particulars of methods for checking this illegal traffic which we might suggest to the Greek Government. We should be glad to know whether we could now be informed of these methods, and whether there is anything useful that we can do on the basis of such information as has been supplied by Piraeus; we should also be grateful if you could reply at the same time to the request for guidance in our letter 46/49/47 of 21st February. We do not consider that it is of any use to continue making representations to the Greeks in general terms, as such approaches simply produce yet another rather fulsome Note promising every co-operation. So many Greeks (among them, no doubt, Government officials) appear to be mixed up in this business, that we do not really believe that it is ever going to be possible to get the Greek Government to take effective preventive steps. Definite and detailed suggestions as to how they can help should, however, hold out more hope of success; we therefore hope that you will be able to instruct us in detail as to what we should do, as you have already

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done in the particular case of the three ships named in your telegram N_0 . 725.

Apart from this, we presume that any information we can provide should be reported to you in order that there may be some chance of arresting immigration vessels upon their arrival in Palestinian waters.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.

The Eastern Department, Foreign Office, S.W.l.

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EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS BY H.M. CONSUL AT PIRAEUS.

15th March 1947.

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Since getting back I have noted a considerable increase in the number of craft in Piraeus whose presence cannot normally be accounted for. There are rumours in the cafes and amongst the fishing population that many of these craft are the so-called Palestinian Fleet.

I have not taken any steps to check this up but during a short walk round the area from the Customs to the end of the Naval College, the following craft were noted:

Vessel.	Registered	Type	Remarks
Teti No Name Kalamara Commando No Name Nisyros Juan No Name No Name No Name Tadoussac No Name Tadoussac No Name Anna Maria No Name Evangelistria	Panama " Greek Panama No flag Panama " " " " " " " " " " " " "	ex Frigate Steam Yacht """ Motor Yacht Steam Yacht """ ex Corvette Steam Yacht ex Escort vessel ex M.M.S. Mine-sweeper ex M.M.S. ex Fairmile ML. ex M.M.S. """"	Refitting " Idle " Idle Refitting " Idle " Refitting " Stripping " Refitting
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I have not included in the list any of the craft at the top end of the harbour nor those known to be lying in St. George's Bay and at Perama - all refitting.

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22nd March 1947.

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The s.s. "Cairo" which was flying the Palestinian flag (registered in Haifa) and plying between Marseilles, Alexandria and Piraeus, has now been placed under Panamanian flag.

XXXXXXX

The change took place on or about the 15th March in Haifa, when the ship called there.

The real owners of this ship are Messrs. John Livanos Ltd., Stone House, Bishopsgate, London E.C.2, but they have one or two Panamanian Companies under their control. It is not known which of these Companies has now become the nominal owner of the "Cairo".

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/22nd March 1947.

22nd March 1947.

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Maris and Gounaris of Megaron Economous owners of the Panamanian "Euthalia" which is plying between Marseilles/Alexandria/ Piraeus, have now purchased another vessel of the same type and have given her the name "Laconia".

She arrived here on the 20th March, 1947, and seven of the crew were British and four Portuguese. All eleven have been shipped by the s.s. "Euthalia" to Marseilles on the 21st March, 1947.

The ship is nominally registered as the property of the Meshades Societé Anonima of Panama. She is a corvette of 196' x 30' and can do about 16 knots. She can accommodate 200 passengers 'tweendecks, but without sleeping accommodation.

XXXXXXX	XXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX

8th April 1947.

I pass this information - sources reliable. I have not been able, with my limited means, to obtain names and particulars of the Jewish Group.

I understand, however, it is the same in every case and a gentleman who has been very active, takes a prominent part in Greek War Relief. I also understand that there are three American Jews who have established a HQ in Piraeus where material, stores, etc., is being purchased, collected and stored.

I have no details beyond the fact that the above organisation is reported to be in existence.

With reference to the Maris Group; my informant's information is that the corvette conversions, together with purchase price, is being financed by sources outside the Company, but that the Company is obtaining enough pickings to be hoping, eventually, to finance the yachts which they apparently will be keeping. The corvettes going elsewhere.

The members of the Gompany are reported, individually and collectively, completely without scruples and ready to make money, provided there is no personal risk attached.

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Firm of N. Maria and Dgm. Gounaris, Piraeus.

Senior Partner:

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Nicholas Maria, at present lives at: 66 Dudley Court, Upper Berkeley Street, W.1.

Is about 65 years of age, dropsical and has angina pectoris. He

/appears to

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appears to have, or at least, to control all the money in the firm. His source of wealth is difficult to account for as in 1938 he was Master-owner of one very ancient Greek tramp steamer. This was frequently repaired by Messrs. Grayton, Rollo and Clower Docks, Liverpool where Mr. Campbell will be able to give a full account of the condition of Maris's finances.

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2. Demetrius Gounaris, 9 Grande Bretagne Street, Piraeus.

About 50 years of age and is the active partner controlling ships' movements, freights, etc., in Greece. Gives no indication of having very much money or influence and is unable to take even minor decisions without consulting Maris.

There is a solicitor in Athens, a Mr. Phalangis, who claims to be a nephew of Maris, who takes an active interest in the firms affairs as if he were some kind of partner. He has described himself as a Director.

A Mr. Poponikolaga, who is married to Maris' daughter and was Secretary to the late King George of the Hellenes has been described by Maris as a Director. He is at present resident in Athens.

Michael Maris, the eldest son of Maris, who was a naval officer in the Hellenic Navy during the war, is also a director. He is 33 years of age, clever, quite unscrupulous, but is allowed to take no decisions without consulting his father. He will inherit his father's interests.

Vessels:

The Company own 4 ex-corvettes and 3 ex-steam yachts.

1. The ex-C_anadian Corvette "Baddek" was converted to a passengercum-cargo vessel in 1946 by Cork Dockyard Ltd., Rushbrooke, Eire. Completed in November 1946. She is now called "Efthalia", carries 110 passengers and has 22,000 cubic feet cargo space. Since her arrival in Greece in December1946, she has been running to Alexandria, Beirut, Haifa, Genoa and Mærseilles. Was converted to British Corporation recommendations and B.O.T. passenger requirements. Has been run since December without any attempt at maintenance and Maris now talks of selling her, having been offered £50,000 by some persons unknown. This ship, despite initial care to make her a firstclass vessel, is a likely candidate for the Jewish Immigrant traffic, She is due to return from Marseilles, arriving Piraeus about the 12th April.

2. The ex-British corvette "Anchusa", now called "Andrea" has just been completed by Cork Dockyard and is due to sail 10th April for the Mediterranean. This vessel has been adapted to carry 52 more passengers than "Efthalia" and the same cargo space. She has NOT been put up to B.O.T. for examination and certificate, but has been classed with B.C.

5. Ex-British corvette "Fritillary", now undergoing conversion by Cork Dockyard and to be called "Macedonia" is being converted as "Andrea" above, and should be complete for sailing to Mediterranean in June, 1947.

Ex-British Corvette "alisma" now called "Laconia" has come out from Milford Haven as she lay, and is at present lying in Piraeus. Various plans of conversion have been suggested but none yet decided on. This vessel is a very likely candidate for the Jew-running stakes, as it is difficult to see why she should have been brought here for conversion when material costs are so much higher and material supply so much more uncertain then in the U.K. or Eire.

Ex-yacht "Lady Blanche", now called "Amarinthia", now being painted and repaired in Piraeus. Negotiations are being conducted to have this vessel transferred from Panamanian to Greek registry for passenger trade among the Greek Islands. It seems fairly certain, in view of this, that the vessel would be retained for this legitimate trade.

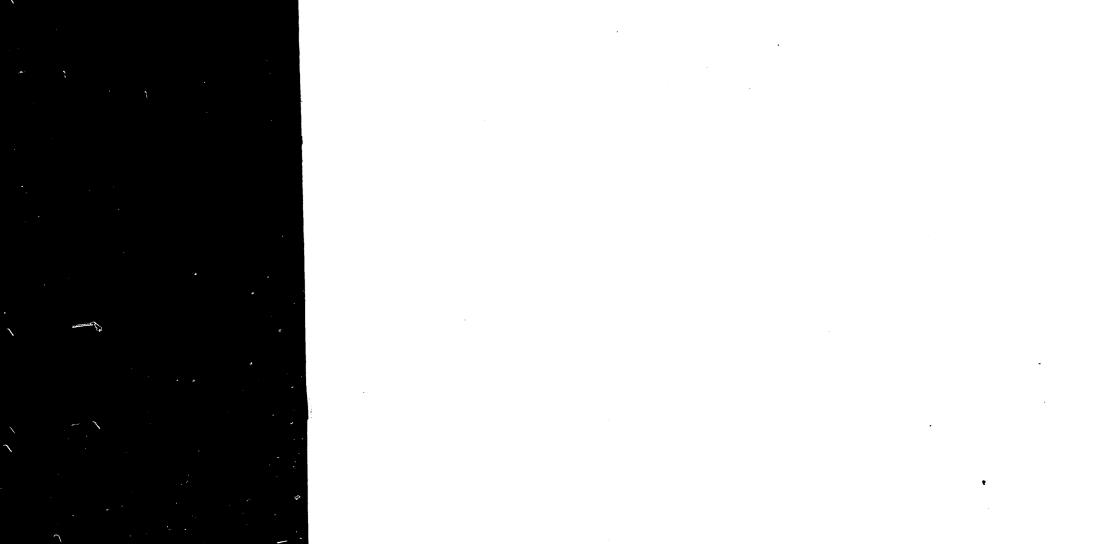
Ex-yacht "Lorna" (now "Thessalia") towed from Gibraltar by "Laconia". $E_{xpressed}$ intention is to temporarily repair boiler (which has been condemned by Lloyd's). Repair superstructure, and run as "Amarinthia" above.

An ex-yacht, now called "Gortynia", now lying at Falmouth waiting favourable weather to come out to Greece. 7.

All the vessels are under Panamanian flag.

Reference 4 above; one of the conversion plans called for was for the ship to carry 3,000 passengers. This figure seems extraordinary, but my informant states that it was all out of proportion to anything she should normally carry. The other conversion for passengers was as per Ships land 2, but that cargo space should be ventilated.

Decision has not yet been taken as to which conversion is to be carried out.



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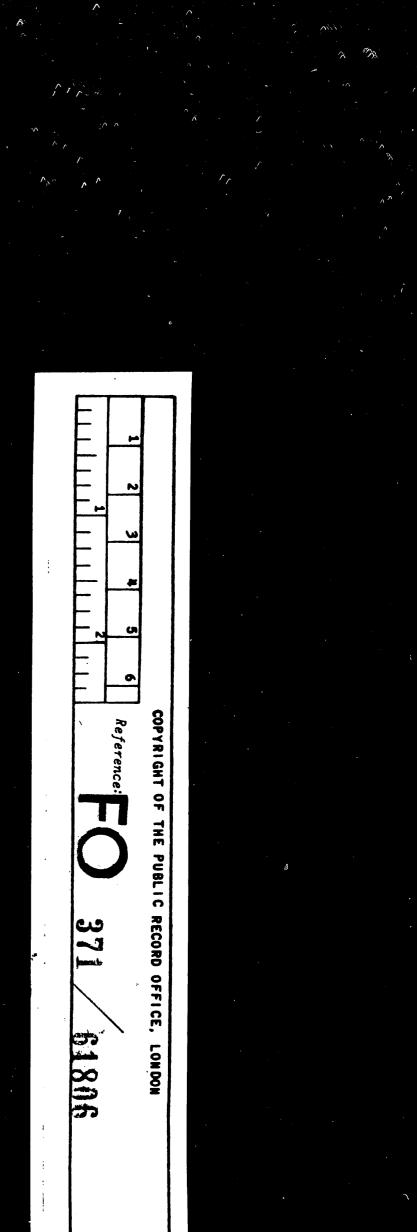
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1. <u>ss "Cyrenia</u>" - at present Panamanian flag. Owners Panayotis Yannoulatos and Athanassios Manuelides. Passenger ship. Is being repaired by boilermaker N_ikolaos Gouzouazis, a nationalist. Will be put on the Piraeus, Alexandria, Lemissos, B_eirut, Haifa line.

Will remain under Panamanian Flag owing to age limit of craft.

- 2. <u>ss "Juan"</u> at present Panamanian flag. Owner Evanghelos Toyas. Passenger vessel. Is being repaired by boilermaker Michael Armenakis, a nationalist and counsellor of the Royalist U_nion. This vessel will be put under Greek Flag and is to go on am Interior Line under the name of "Moschanthi".
- 3. <u>ss "Alesandra"</u> (C_{orvette}) Panamanian flag. Owners Goulandris Brothers. Passenger vessel. Is being repaired by engineer Pandelis Karonis, a nationalist accused of collaboration with the Germans. Is to be put on an Interior Line and therefore reverts to Greek Flag.
- 4. <u>ss "Veste"</u> Owners three natives of Cassos. Was salvaged at the mouth of Corinth Canal. Passenger vessel. Is being repaired by engineer Alexandros Poutos, a nationalist, and is to be sold to the same Italian Company to which it previously belonged and which offered the owners £10,000 over the price at which it was originally purchased.
- 5. <u>ss "Nisyros</u>" Panamanian flag. Owner Nikolaos Kavalliotis of the Dodecannese. Passenger vessel. Will be put on Exterior Line, Piraeus, Lemissos, Beirut, Haifa.
- 6. <u>ss "Elioupolis</u>" Panamanian flag. Is to be put under Greek flag. Owners Typaldo Bros., whose agents are the Naos Compania de Napoles (?) Passenger vessel. Is being repaired by boilermaker Nikolaos Gouzouazis.
- 7. <u>ss "Commando" Panamanian flag</u>. O_{wner} Charalambos Pateras. Has been sold to Jewish interests.
- 8. <u>ss "Kalamara-Pireefs</u>" was requisitioned by Coastwise Line and working on Interior Line. Has now been purchased by Jewish interests.
- 9. <u>ss "Komninos"</u> Master Nikitas Capotas. Agents "Anonymos Eteria Genikon Naftikon Ergassion". This vessel is on the Exterior Line,



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i.e., Piraeus, Alexandria, Beirut, Haifa and is alleged to be smuggling Jews to Palestine.

- 10. <u>ss "Urania</u>" Panamanian flag. Owners Armenakis. Passenger vessel. Was repaired by engineer George Serafis a month ago and left for Italy. Chartered by Jews for Palestine. It ran aground, however, and is being towed back to Greece.
- 11. **gs** "Efxinos" (petrol-driven craft) Tonnage 100 tons. Owner Evanghelos Roussos, a Lt-Commander R.H.N.V.R. Master Stamatios Ypetzoglou. This vessel is alleged to be making arrangements to smuggle Jews. It is reported that she is clearing for Alexandria but is to collect parties from various islands and make a dash for it. Date of departure not known. As she is a petrol-driven craft it should not be difficult to ascertain when she starts bunkering.

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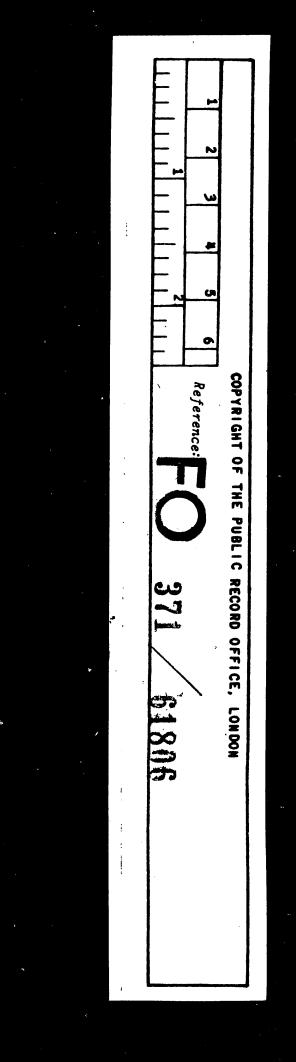
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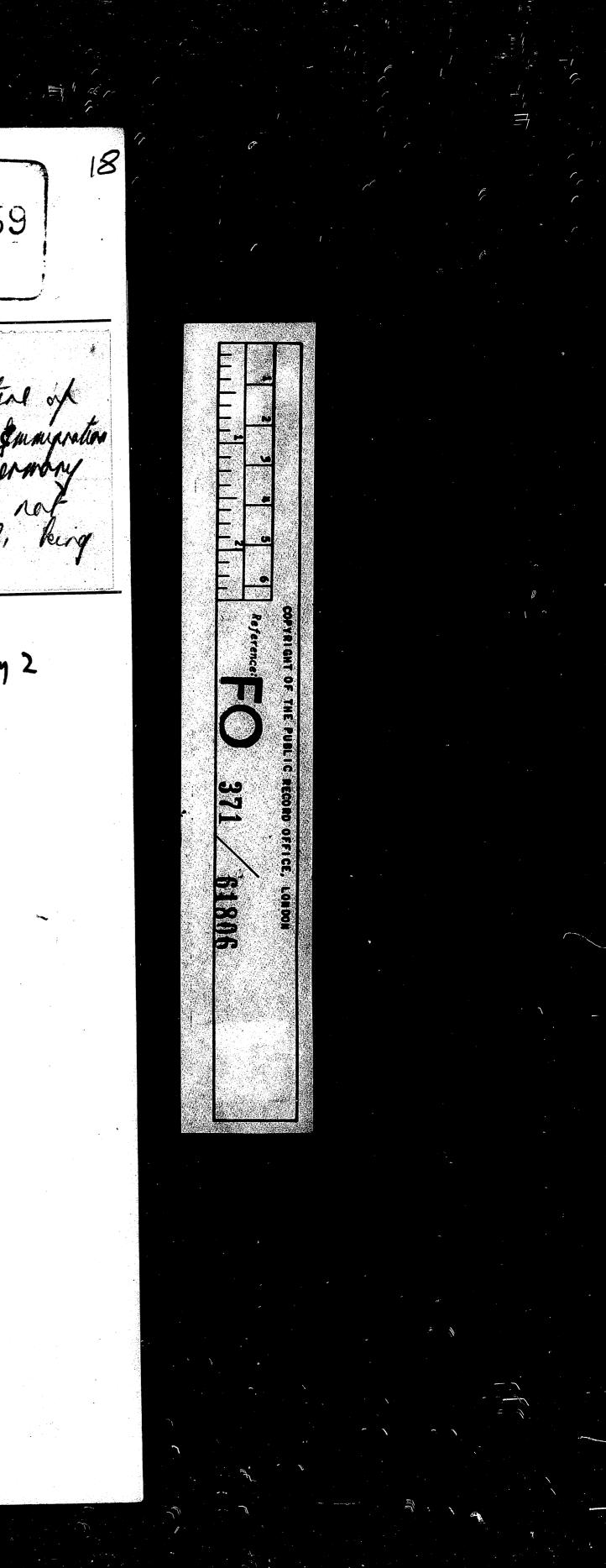
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19 EASTERN **Parliamentary Question** * 32. Major Tufton Beamish,—To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, if he will state the outline of the recently discovered plan for the illegal emigration of about 125,000 Jews from the U.S. zone of Germany to Palestine and say what steps have been taken, and will be taken, in conjunction with the U.S. authorities to stop this plan being put into effect. [Monday 28th April.] 3659 -28 APR 1947 ANEWSACT I have consulted the Colonial office MIPLY AT CARDON They have some exabout this question. perience of Major Tufton Beamish, and have found that he is not always accurate in his It would seem that the "recently facts. discovered plan" to which he refers is connected with a statement made by Ehe Jewish propagandisf Bernstein, who has said that there would be a mass exodus of Jews from Germany to Palestine. I suggest the attached reply. Co Concor Reference 131. Serias 24th April, 1947. 3 2 BEITH 61806

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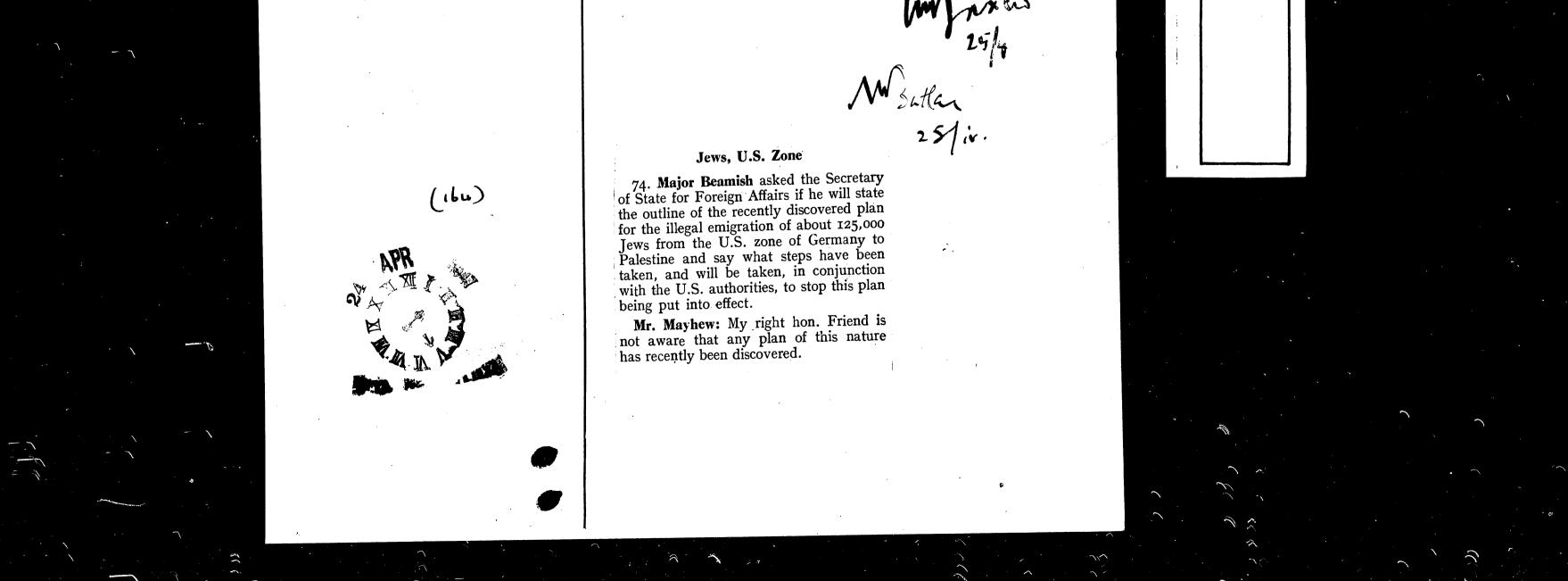
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Mr. Heppel

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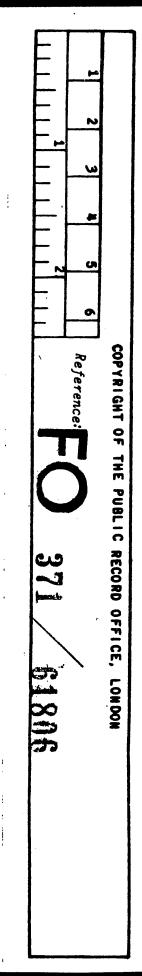
Nothing to

The statement by Mr. Bernstein mentioned by the Colonial Office took the form of a press conference at which the speaker stated that 125,000 Jews from Europe were on the march to Palestine. Mr. Bernstein is the Adviser on Jewish Affairs to the Commander of the U.S. Zone of Germany. It is not of course certain that Major Tufton-Beamish is referring to this press conference, but it looks as if he may be.

As regards our representations to the United States Government, we have continued to press these but have not got much change out of the State Department. This question is dealt with in another P.Q. for answer to-day on the subject of press reports that the Major of New York had sponsored a drive to secure nearly £2 million for illegal immigration and terrorism in Palestine.

My s_ Ben

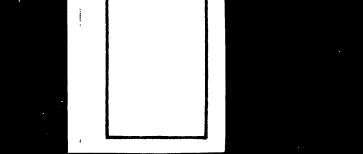
(J.G.S. Beith) 28th April, 1947.



21 that hor ang plan of this h recently been discoverki awar of a very general statement made He Adviser on Jewich Affairs the la the Con DRAFT REPLY of the U.S. zone of Germany. TO: I am not aware that any plan of the nature. MAJOR TUFTON BEAMISH described by the Hon Member has recently been * 32. bursung His Majesty's Government are continuing discovered. MONDAY, 28th APRIL actively actively means to prevent the unilligal immigration of Jews through Europe leading departure of illegal immigrant ships for in 1m1-25/4 Palestine. Q forile Values mean ava Str. immigral for. illesal waren? commission vitt 15 subject. 1.5 tto 25/iv. 7 What who was Bernstein's statement??

Whee - can I say alone on veloverendictions to fren aduentines? The Hone i V.S. gour. - 2.1. ~ Keen 9 Hain. ver,

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THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Jews, U.S. Zone

74. Major Beamish asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if he will state the outline of the recently discovered plan for the illegal emigration of about 125,000 Jews from the U.S. zone of Germany to Palestine and say what steps have been taken, and will be taken, in conjunction with the U.S. authorities, to stop this plan being put into effect.

Mr. Mayhew: My right hon. Friend is not aware that any plan of this nature has recently been discovered.

28 APR 1947

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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Reference:

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Following document(s) retained in the

Department of origin under Section 3 (4)

of the Public Records Act, 1958

E3667/48/31

E 3675 E 23 1947 PALESTINE MAY R Lumig ration Selligal Registry Numb**e**r E 3675 48/3/ (ESUSO/US) Releas TELEGRAM FRQM W/Dey boen a Honeg VAN W No. Dated ending ku Received in Registry An 348 repentatives erre 1, 11/04/194) Manin -Last Paper.,667 (Minutes.) ¥ złądan JB May 10 COPYRIGH Refe References. 37 (Print.) 61806 (How disposed of.) B Higham. в Dodds Zudmly fc MIS . merely May 3 (Action completed.) (Ladex.) 12 Next Paper. E 36 32003 F.O.P. • •

24 E 3675

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

	D. 6.45 p.m. 1st May 1947.
No. 348. 1st May 1947.	R. 10.15 p.m. 1st May 1947

YYYY

IMMEDIATE SECRET

Cypher/OTP

8 2480/03/2.

Your telegram No. 672.

Illegal Jewish immigration.

We have arranged with Ministry of Foreign Affairs that talks shall open on 12th May. They note that you will be sending four experts and they will produce representatives of the Ministry of the Interior and of the Department of Merchant Marine. Meanwhile His Majesty's Minister will be in London 5th to 8th May, and will be available for consultation.

2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs noticed that you had announced these talks in the Press. They beg that no further publicity should be given since these talks, to which they have agreed on their own responsibility, were not specifically authorised by the Council of Ministers. (Incidentally from our own point of view it is surely desirable not to let the organisers of illicit traffic know exactly what measures are being taken).

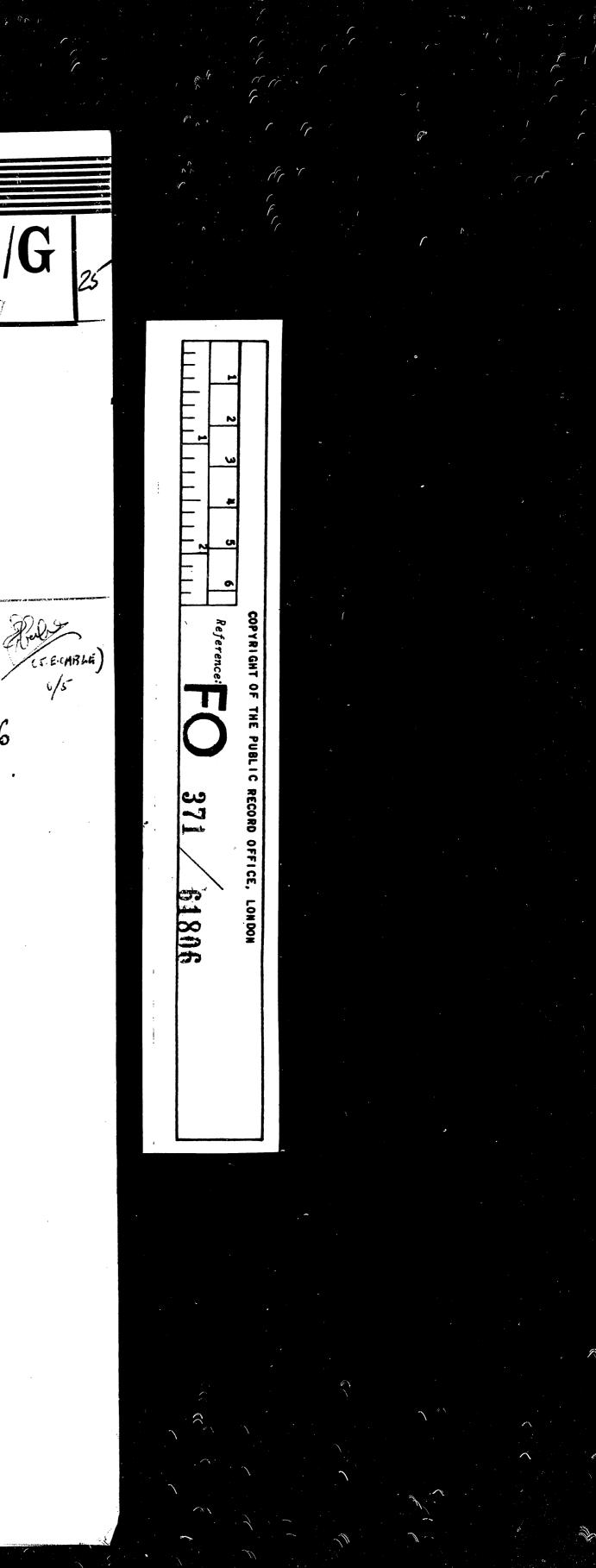
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3. As regards your paragraph 2 Monsieur Bousquet agreed that when occasion arises, member of His Majesty's Embassy shall be allowed to see visa documents provided again there is no publicity and the arrangement is regarded as informal.

4. French could not seriously contend that Safety of Life at Sea Convention had been strictly applied in the case of the "Guardian", and are aware that there is ample room for improvement. This is a point which can be pressed in the talks and by the time these are held we may have some practical experience of how seriously the measures offered by the French Government have in fact been applied.

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Palestin E3677 FACTERN 2 版过 1947 103 E 3697 1487 Illegal Imigration Rep. to his tel 288 lingon Tel. 10 338 hay lot. Droft liber to angora (Minutes.) & henrey altoched Rules (1. E. CMBLE) Last Paper. E3667 References. JB may 6 E3123, 126 (Print.) (How disposed of.) Str)enancery Nugota from E Jep 6 May (Index.) (Action completed.) WgH. Next Paper. E3754 (E4368) 28888 F.O.F.



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Registry No.**E. 3677/48/G.**

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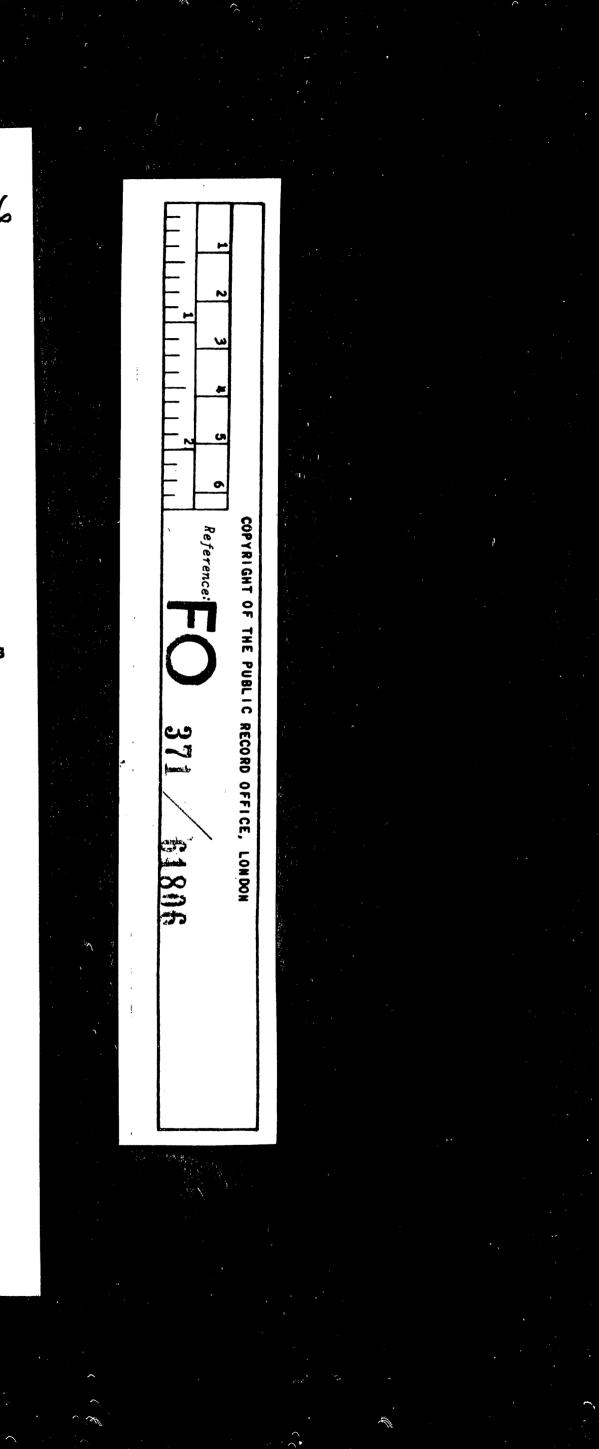
The Chancery, ANGORA.

(from Eastern Department) FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1. 26 bthe May, 1947.

Please refer to our telegram No. 249 about Jewish illegal immigration traffic. We note from your telegrams Nos. 288 and 338 that Turkish law makes it difficult for the local authorities to take any action to cancel the registry or prevent the sailing of such ships.

We have suggested to other posts that they should base their representations to foreign governments on the provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1929 and the International Convention respecting Load Lines 1930 Unfortunately, Turkey is not a signatory of these Conventions. Nevertheless, we imagine it to be probable that Turkish law contains some specific provisions dealing with the loading and sea-worthiness of their shipping. A8 the normal practice of the organisers of overload limited this traffic is to limit the amount of tonnage which they possess in order to carry the maximum number of illegal

immigrants/



immigrants to Palestine, their ships are

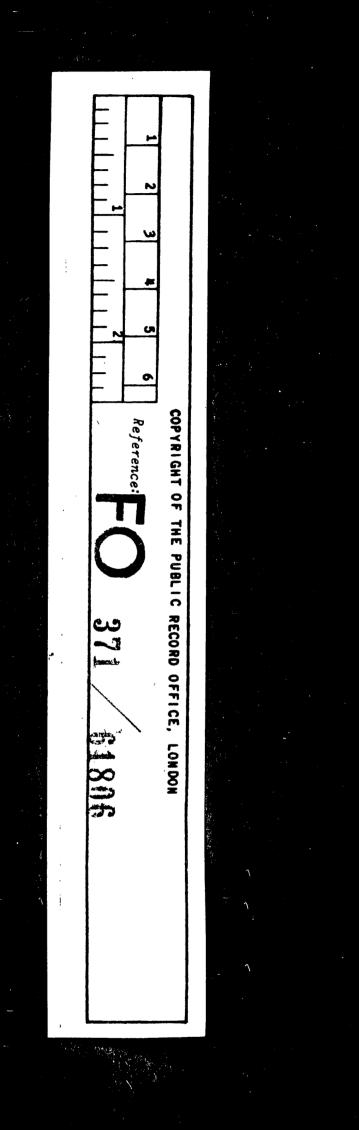
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usuably over-crowded, overloaded and unseaworthy. We suggest, therefore, that you should consult your local legal advisers on this point and unge the Tyrush anthorities to prevent shipping under their flog Yours ever, toom being used in these Conditions.

JB. may 6

Eastern Department

MARGIN. THIS Z WRITTEN Ш8 5 NOTHING



(E 3677/48/G)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S. W. 1. 28

6th May, 1947.

Dear Chancery,

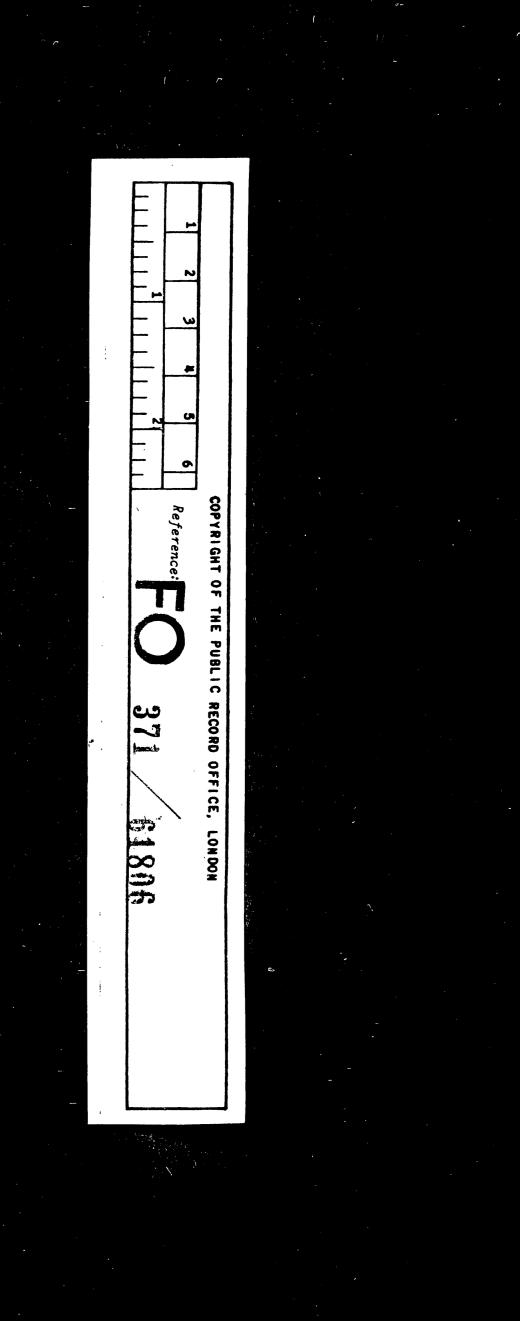
Please refer to our telegram No. 249 about the Jewish illegal immigration traffic. We note from your telegrams Nos. 288 and 338 that Turkish law makes it difficult for the local authorities to take any action to cancel the registry or prevent the sailing of such ships.

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Yours ever,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

The Chancery, British Embassy, Angora.



[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP.

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM ANGORA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

 Mr. Eyres.
 D. 3.56 p.m. 1st May, 1947.

 No.358.
 R. 8.00 p.m. 1st May, 1947.

 1st May, 1947.

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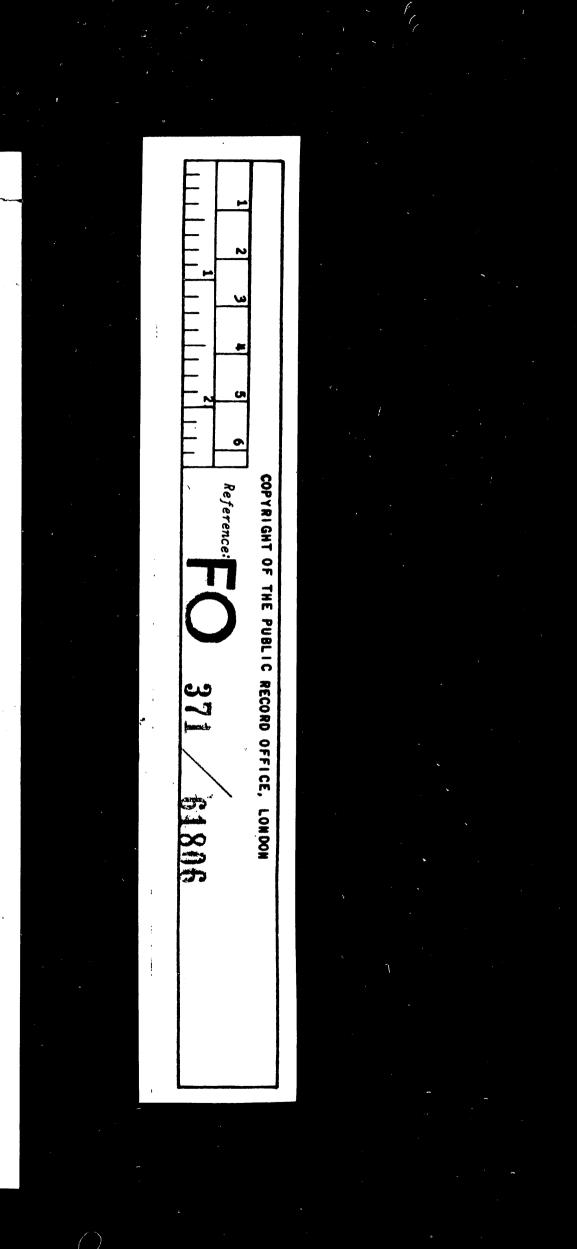
Secret.

My telegram No. 288. Ela Misraz Masia

Turkish ship engaged in illegal immigration traffic.

Further pressure on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has elicited information that it is impossible under Turkish law for ship's registration to be cancelled but it seems that it might be possible to take "administrative" action" which would prevent ship from leaving Turkish waters.

I pressed for this to be done but I fear that no decision has yet been taken.



PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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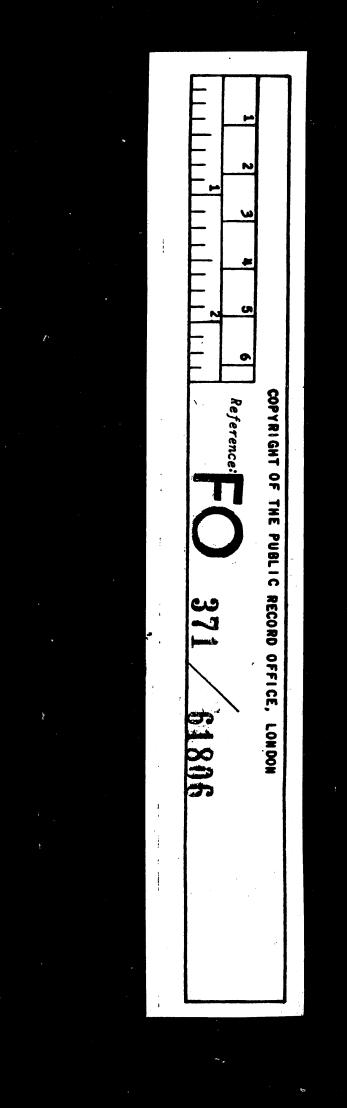
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Next Paper.

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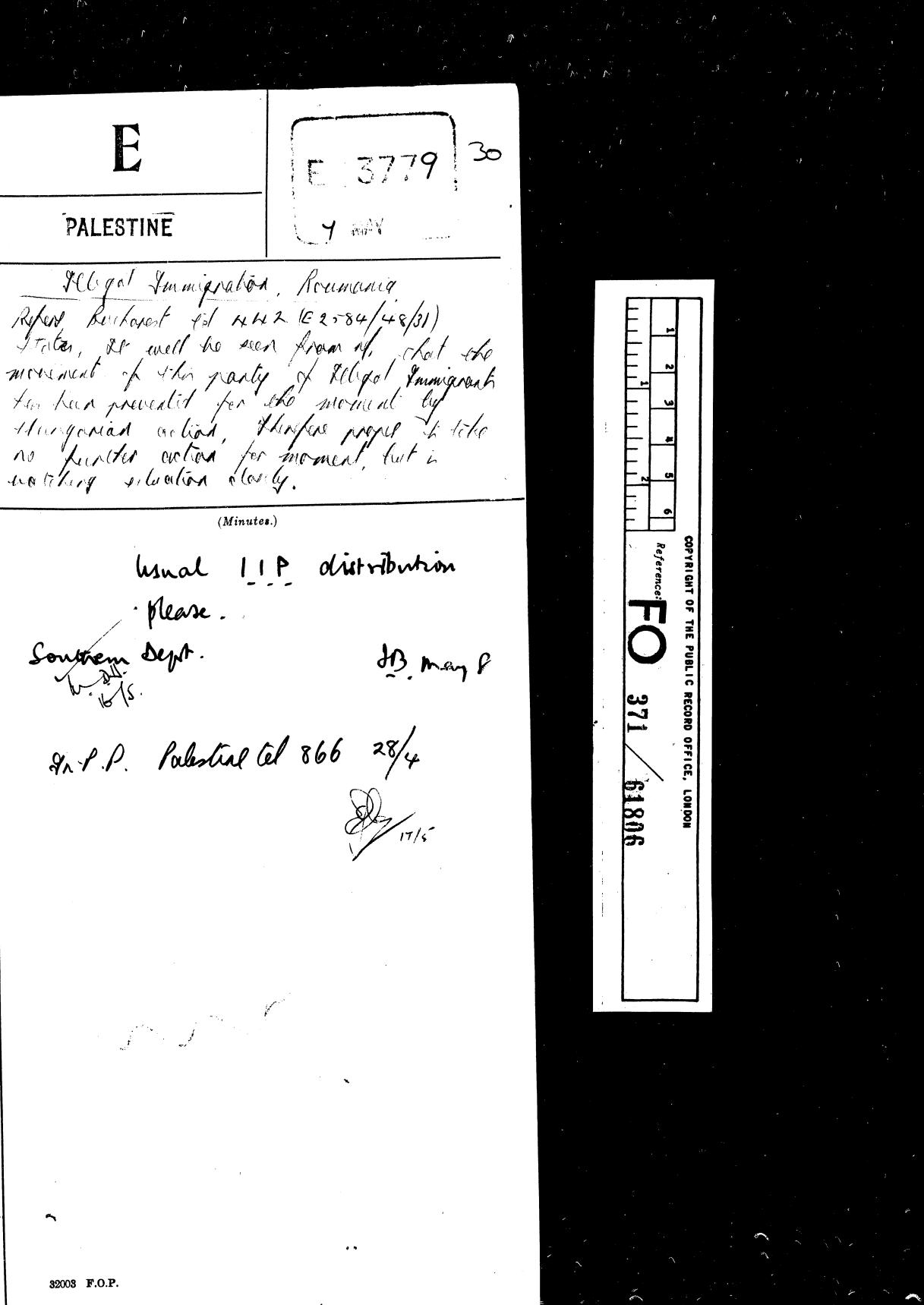
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(Minutes.)

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Cypher/OTP	DEPART	MENTAL NO. 2.	E 31			
FROM]	BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN	OFFICE.				
Mr. Holman. <u>No. 461</u>	D. 11.50 a.m. 5 R. 3.25 p.m. 5	th May 1947. th May 1947.			FIJ]
5th May 1947	· · · ·					
Repeated to:	Jerusalem B.M.E.O. Cairo.	E 37	79			
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SECRET	W. O.	Y MAY	4 			
Your tele [? grp. omitte of State for C	gram No. 407 repeat d] telegram No. 866 Colonies.	ing High Commis to Secretary	sion		6 Ref	
Illegal immigration Balkans.						
Message begins.						
You will have seen from my telegram No. 442 that the movement of this party of illegal immigrants has been prevented for the moment by Hungarian action. I propose therefore to take no further action for the moment but I am watching the situation closely.						
the situation closely. Foreign Office please repeat to Jerusalem and B.M.E.O. Cairo as my telegrams Nos. 21 and 8 respectively.						
[Repeate	d to B.M.E.O. Cairo].			90	

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[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].



INWARD TELEGRAM

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gon. Sir A. Cunningham)

15

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 28th April, 1947. R. 28th " 18.30 hrs.

No. 866 Top Secret.

Addressed to the S. of S. Repeated to Bucharest (S. of S. please pass as my (No. 596). " British Hiddle East Office (No. (corrupt group).

Your tologram No. 786 reposting Bucharest telegram to Foreign Office No. 419.

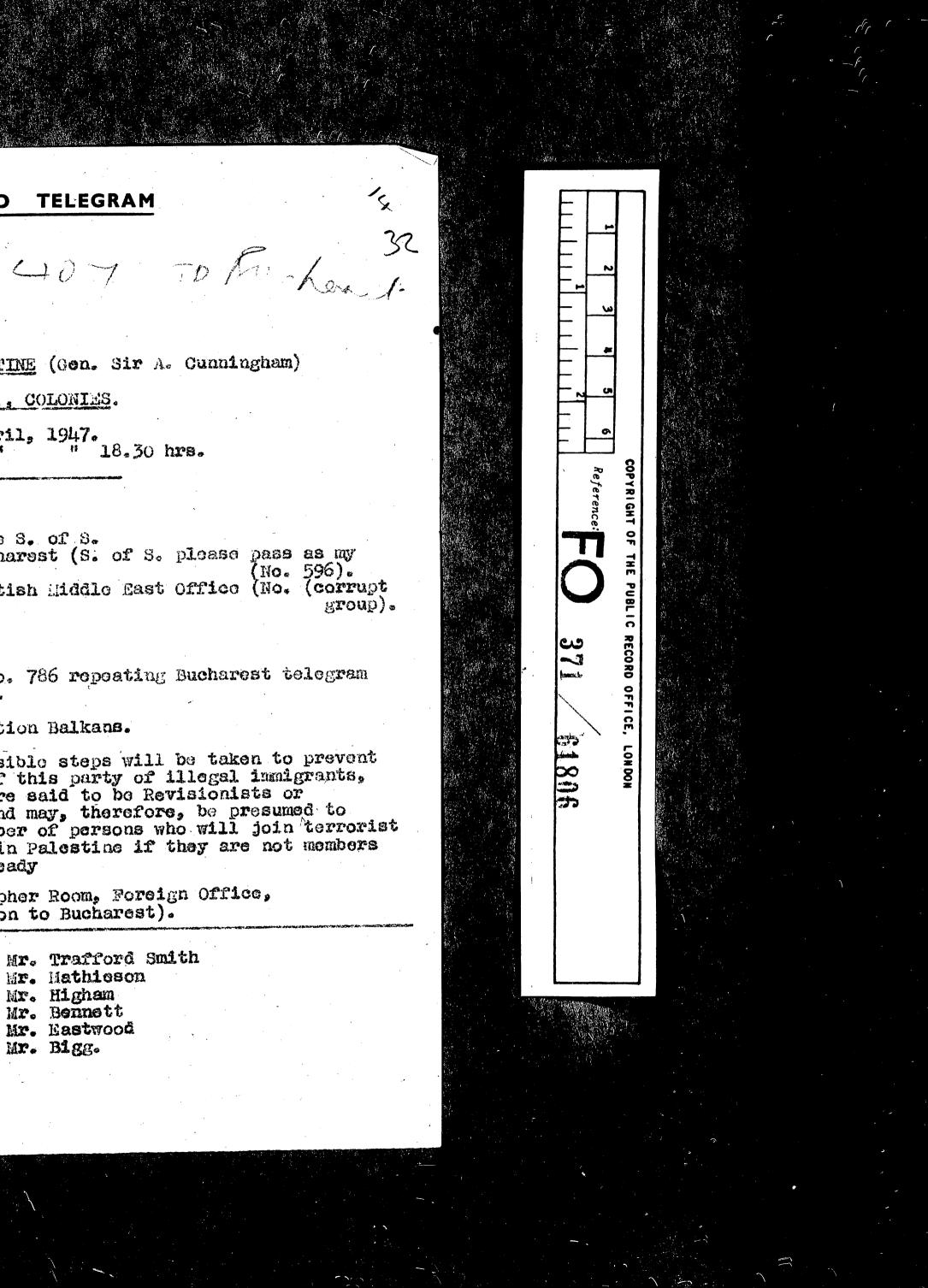
Illogal immigration Balkans.

I trust all possible steps will be taken to prevent departure for Palestine of this party of illegal immigrants, particularly since they are said to be Revisionists or Revisionist sympathisers and may, therefore, be presumed to include a substantial number of persons who will join terrorist organisations on arrival in Palestine if they are not members of such organisations already

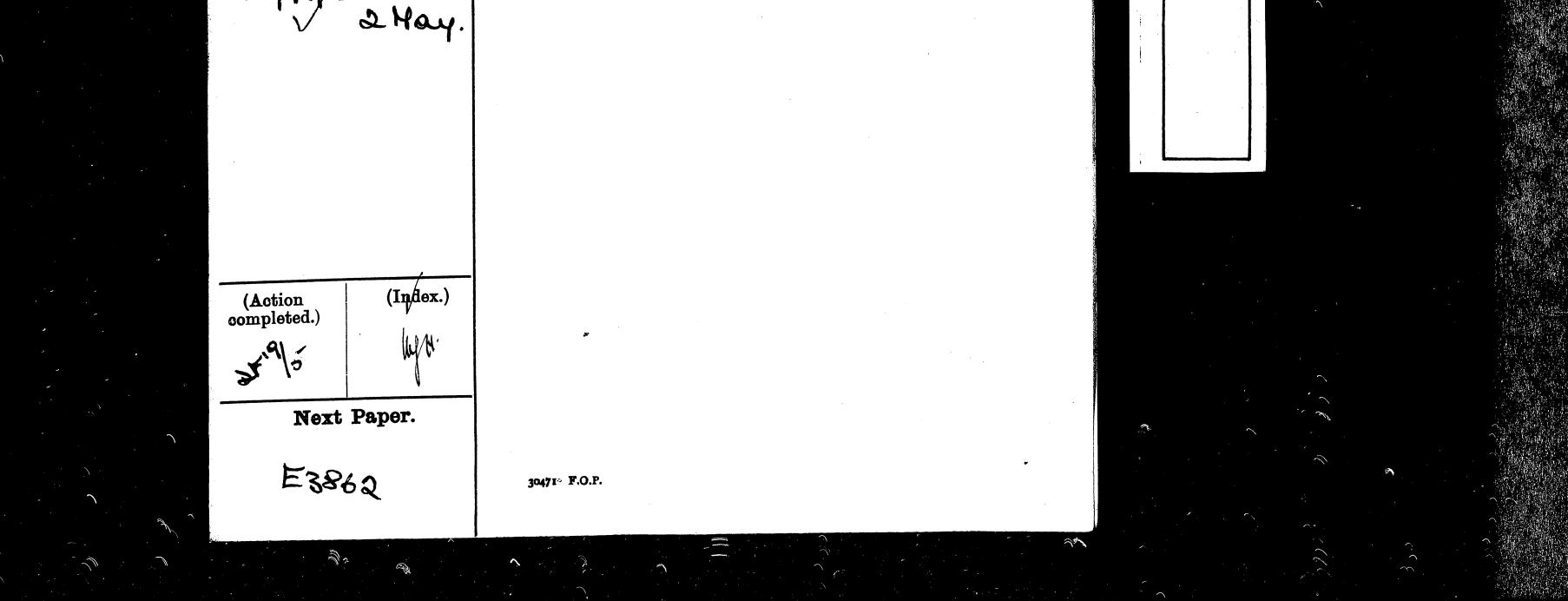
> (Copies to Cypher Room, Foreign Office, for repetition to Bucharest).

Dist	tributed to:-	
M.S.		
Seci	retary of State	
	T. Lloyd	
	I. Thomas	
	Martin	
sir	D. Harris	

Mr. Trafford Smith Mr. Mathieson Mr. Higham Mr. Bennett Mr. Eastwood Mr. Bigg.



E349, /G Jalestine 33 1947 ? MAY 19.)] E EASTERN E 3791 /48/9 Elegas immigration Mr. Muhrie, ason Evelopes winnte 15 P. H. 15 Mr. Neurikos reporting reeves of Cabines discussion. Dated 2 Hay Received Y Hay. Last Paper. (Minutes.) E3790 See E3754/G & minute Ref hs. Bent References. N Hamilter - Major May & Fu . 17/5. とて (Print.) 61806 How disposed of.) PH/47/80



6 MAY 1947

E3791 2nd May, 1947.

Inter 3

My dear Henniker, MAY 1947

I enclose a minute which the Foreign Secretary may care to send to the Prime Minister reporting the result of this morning's discussion about illegal immigration into Palestine.

E

I should be most grateful if you would let me know when the Foreign Secretary sends off this minute and whether he decides to alter it.

Yours sincerely,

J.P.E.C. Henniker-Major, Esq., M.C., Private Secretary to the Secretary of State, Foreign Office.

E (1947 6 MAY 1947 ۶.۰ 18 A E3791 2nd May, 1947.

My dear Henniker, 7 MAY 1947

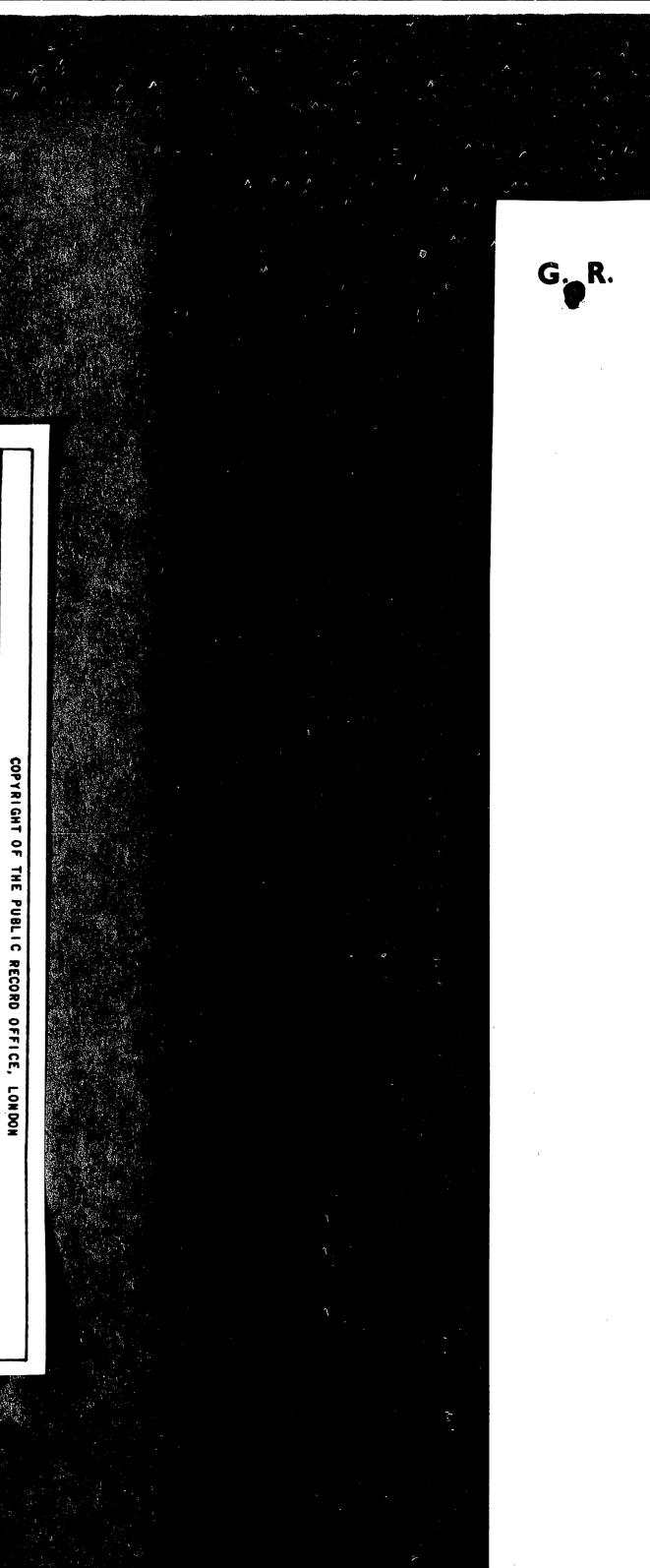
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Yours sincerely,

h. J. Mussie

J.P.E.C. Henniker-Major, Esq., M.C., Private Secretary to the Secretary of State, Foreign Office.



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Reference:

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PRIME MINISTER

At yesterday's meeting of the Cabinet (C.M.(47) 42nd Conclusions, Minute 3) I was invited to consider with the Ministers concerned the proposal advocated by the Colonial Office and supported by the Foreign Office that His Majesty's ships should be authorised to arrest on the high seas any illegal immigrant ship whose flag state had agreed to interception.

35

I discussed this proposal with the Minister of Defence, 2. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the First Lord of the Admiralty and the Minister of Transport this morning, and we all agreed that, for the reasons put forward on behalf of the Admiralty at yesterday's Cabinet, it would be unwise to adopt it.

We all felt that it was essential that energetic 3. action should be taken to stop the embarkation of illegal immigrants and we welcomed your decision that an Official Inter-departmental Committee should be set up at once to co-ordinate action in dealing with the problem of illegal immigration and, in particular, to consider all possible methods by which the traffic might be stopped at source. We also thought that one of the tasks of this Committee should be to collect evidence showing the extent to which the illegal traffic was being fostered in the United States in order to strengthen my hand in making representations to the United States Government.



I suggest that it might be convenient for the work 4. of the Official Committee to be supervised by a small group of the Ministers most immediately concerned meeting informally under my chairmanship, on the understanding that

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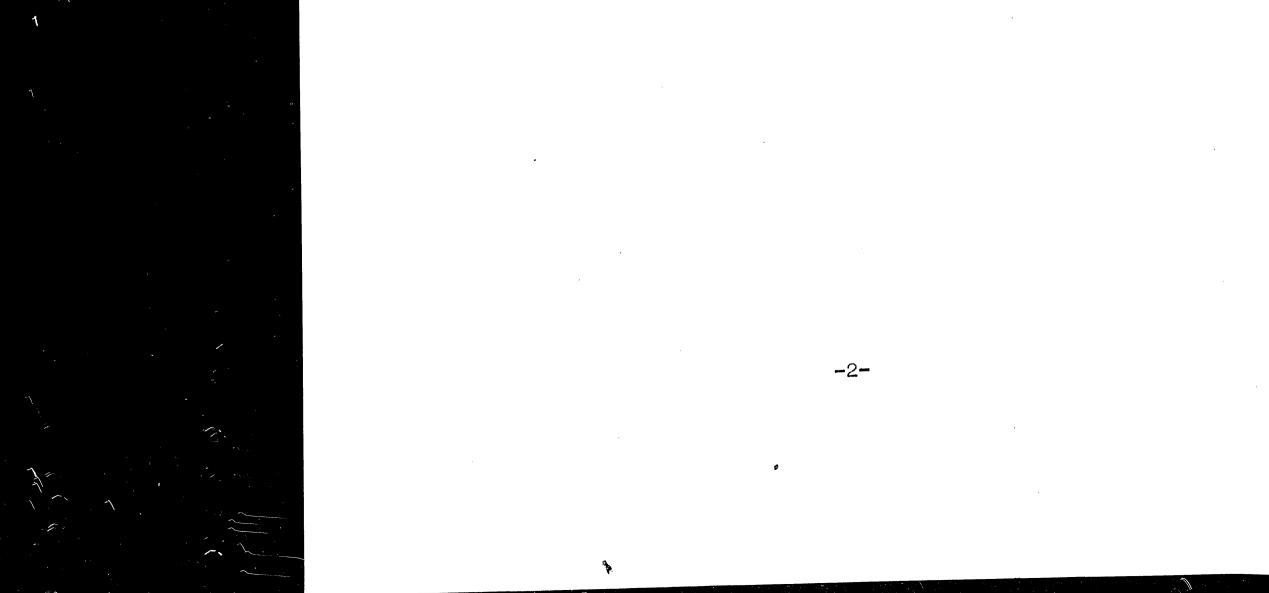
G_KR.

we would refer to the Cabinet or the Defence Committee, as the case might be, any questions requiring consideration by one or other of these bodies.

I should add that meanwhile I am taking special steps 5. to see whether we cannot stop the embarkation of illegal immigrants in the "President Warfield", which is reported to be in Genoa.

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MAY, 1947.



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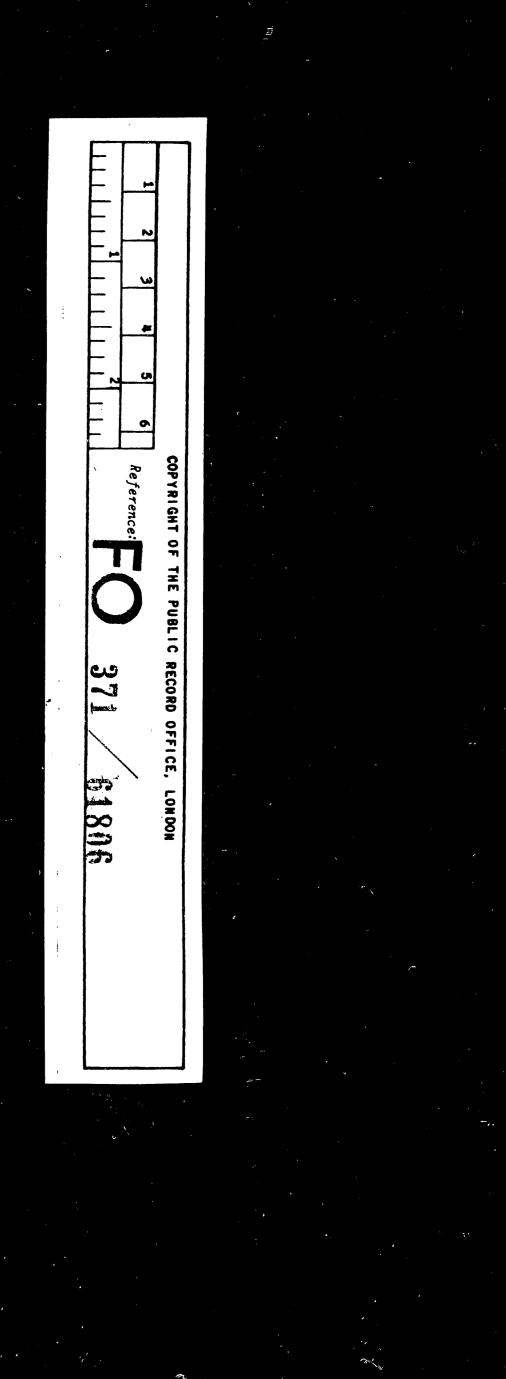
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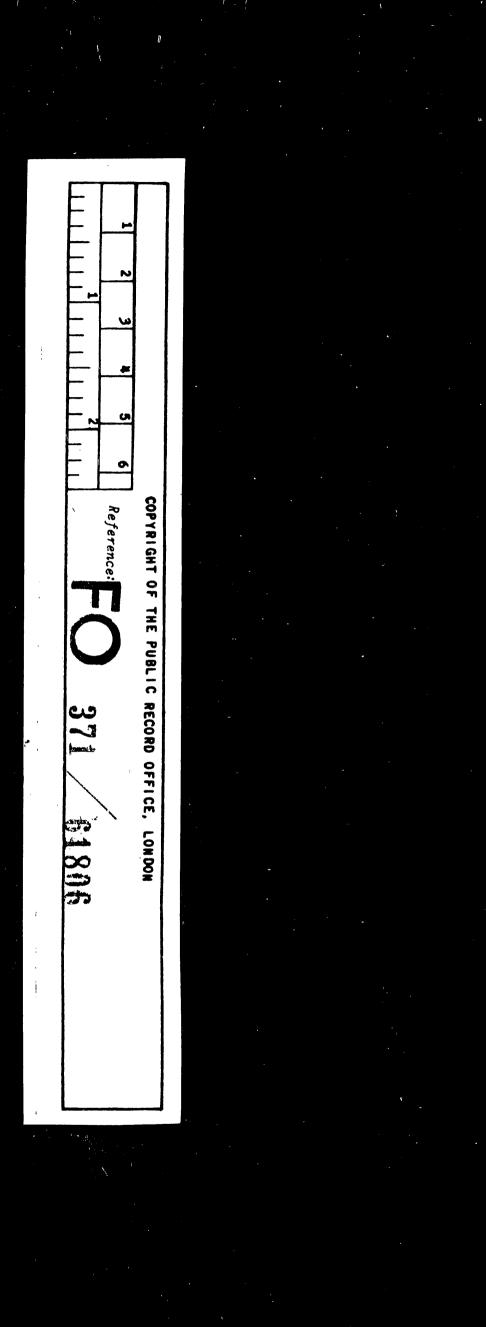


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2

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be/



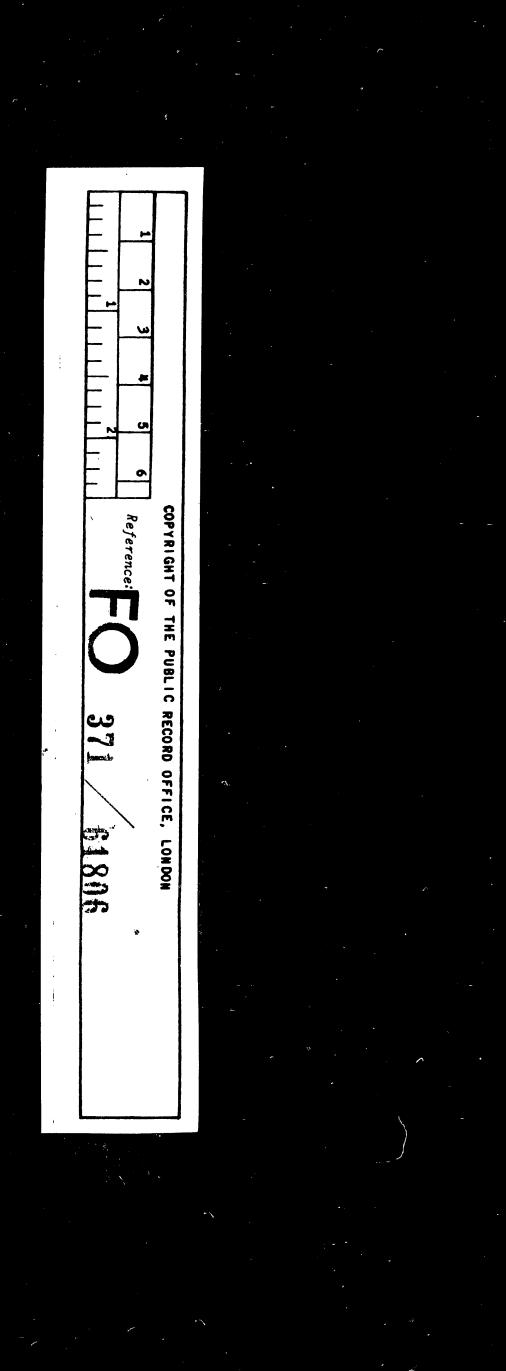
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by one or other of these bodies.
5. I should add that meanwhile I am taking
special steps to see whether we cannot stop
the embarkation of illegal immigrants in the
"President Warfield", which is reported to
be in Genoa.

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(Sd.) ERNEST BEVIN

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2nd May, 1947.



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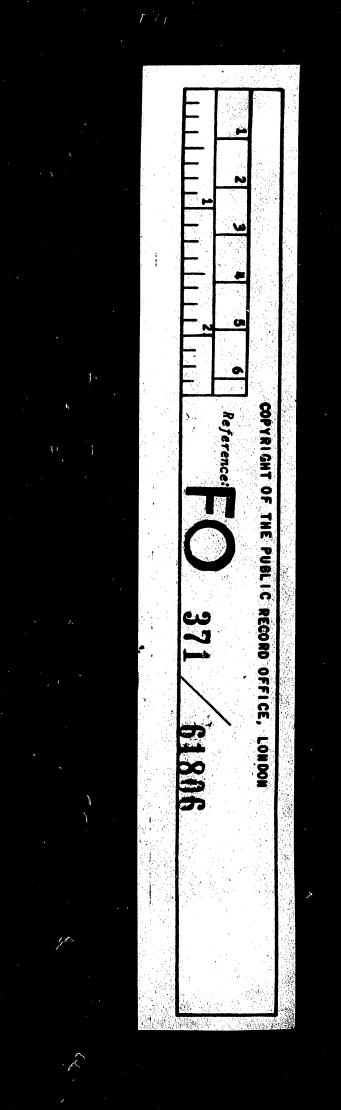
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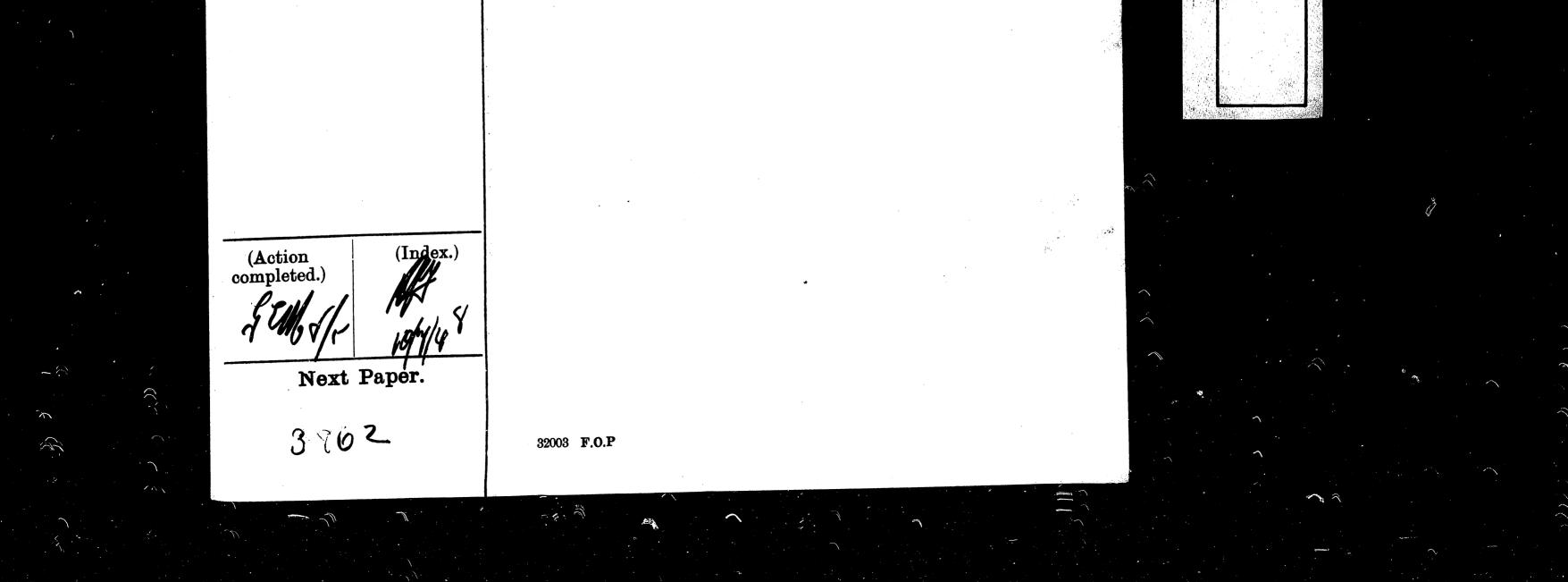
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Parliamentary Question

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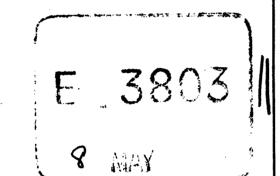
Refe:

* 13. Major Tufton Beamish,—To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, what arrangements have been made to counter Zionist plans for the illegal emigration of Jews from Europe to Palestine; which countries have been asked to co-operate in these arrangements; which countries have agreed to co-operate fully; and which countries have either refused to co-operate or offered only partial co-operation. [Monday 5th May.]

5 MAY 1947.

 \boldsymbol{U}

Lewis



If we were to reply to Major Tufton Beamish's question in full, we should have to write the longest note on Jewish illegal immigration yet prepared. It is of course out of the question to go into the details required by Major Beamish, if only because the publication of the measures we are taking would greatly help the organisers of the illegal immigrant traffic in their work.

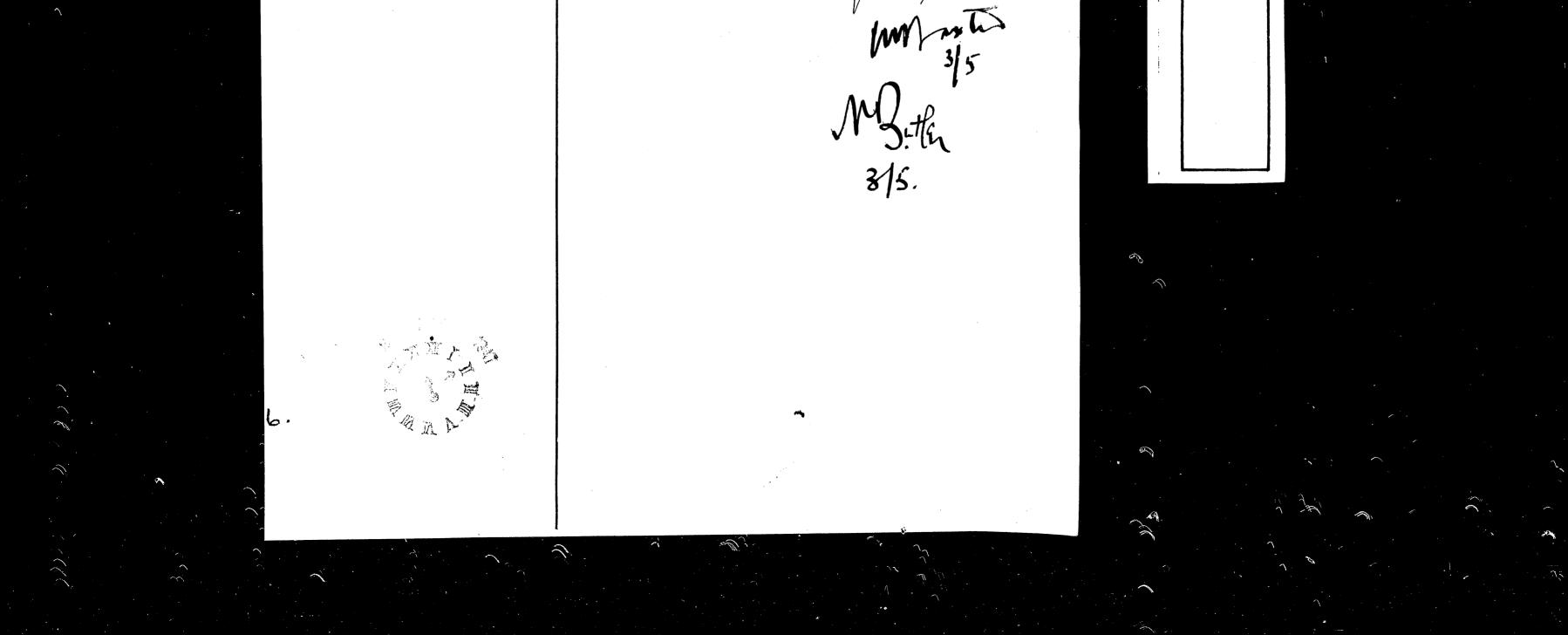
Draft reply attached. Co. Conew

h, s. Benit

(J.G.S. Beith)

3rd May, 1947.

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23. Major Tufton Beamish asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs what arrangements have been made to counter Zionist plans for the illegal emigration of Jews from Europe to Palestine; which countries have been asked to co-operate in these arrangements; which countries have agreed to co-operate fully; and which countries have either refused to co-operate, or offered only partial co-operation.

Mr. McNeil: It would clearly lessen the efficiency of the measures taken against illegal immigration of Jews into Palestine if these measures were made public, but I hope the hon. and gallant Gentleman will accept my assurance that the measures are vigorous, extensive and varied in character.

Major Beamish: Will the Minister say whether the arrangements are effective?

Mr. McNeil: To some degree.

Mr. Anthony Nutting: Can the Minister say what is the use of asking Governments, such as has been done in the case of Italy, to stop the emigration of Jews to Palestine while taking no steps, or, at least, very few steps, to see that organisations such as U.N.R.R.A. do not encourage Jewish emigration to Palestine through such countries?

Mr. McNeil: I could not accept the assumption made by the hon. Gentleman, but he may be quite sure that we are in close contact with the Italian Government in connection with the many difficulties involved.

Mr. Nutting: Obviously, the Italians do not want these Jews in Italy, and if they are dumped on them, surely, the Minister must realise that they are only too anxious to get them out.

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OFFICE,

LONDON

Draft reply to P.Q. No. 13.

Major Tufton Beamish. 2nd May, 1947.

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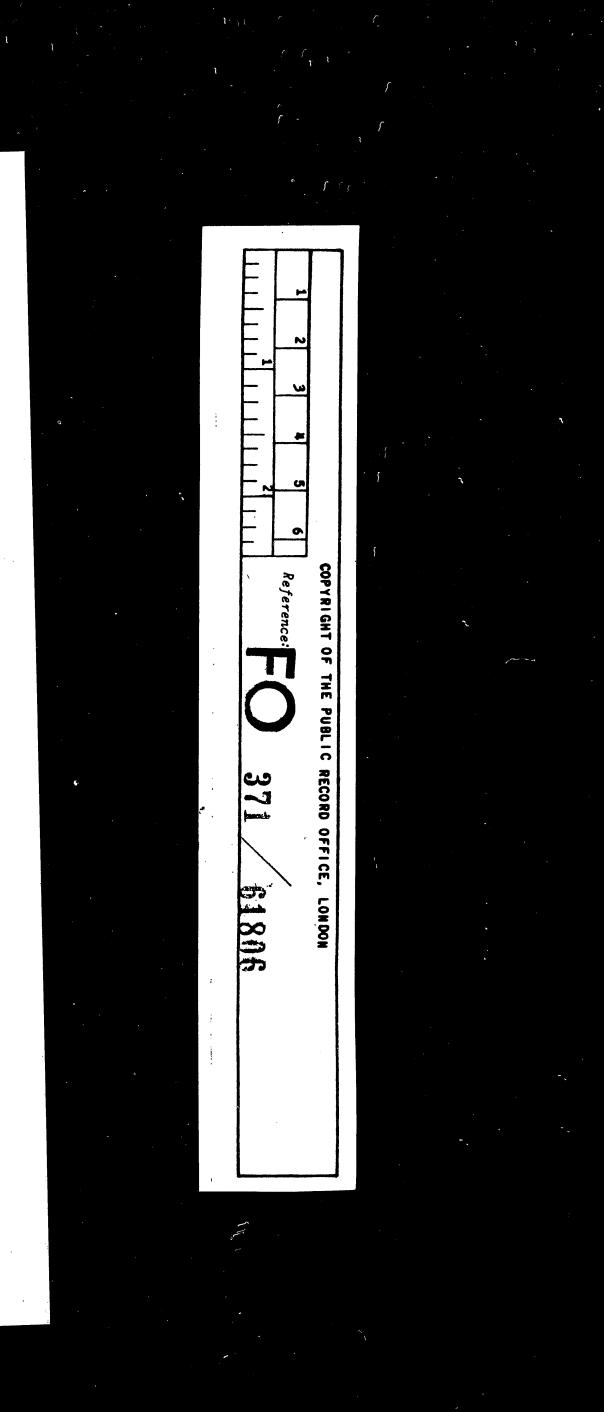
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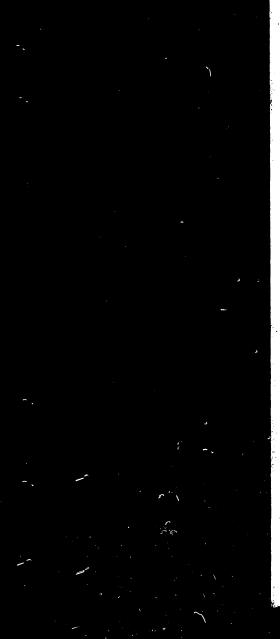
I do not consider that it would be appropriate or desirable to make public the measures of His Majesty's Government to prevent the illegal immigration of Jews into Palestine or the representations which they have made to foreign governments on the subject. I can further assure the Honorable and Gallant Member that everything possible is being done.

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It would deal lessen hi efficiens of the neasures later a samit. At illeson missoulie at Bens who Palstine. if this measures were made hughic, but & later the Pallon settine will except on assured that the neares are all resource glen in waved a character



E3862 /G 44 alistin 1947 EASTERN 112 Elegar Tenner activities in Czech - Teachen area E 38621 48 19 Reports information regarding Mr Scherr HIS above. toth Beith SF215/3/1332/FS 20100 30 April Received 9 Mar This report is typical of many received from M. I. 5 Last Paper. Re in that the information it entains I should E3Y91 obviously be passed direct to the Mission concerned. I live asked that Mr. Schen to have References. this done in this factionlas case, but it ought always to be love as a matter of routine. I submit a draft accordingly. 37 (J.E.CABLE) ben by Mr. Built. 9/5 (Print.) 6180 (How disposed of.) UH Mr. Robertoon His grow he Beith Yhay. 13H (Index.) (Action completed.) Next Paper. E3883 30471 F.O.P.



 SECRET 45

 Telephone Nos.

 N ENT 6050.

 WHITEHALL 6789.

 SF.215/3/B.3.e/ES.

 SF.215/3/B.3.e/ES.

Dear Beith

The following account of illegal Jewish activities in the CZECH-TESCHEN district may be of interest to you.

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PUBLIC

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OFFICE,

LONDON

The Jewish community of CZECH-TESCHEN is reported to be actively engaged in assisting Jews to escape from Poland and Hungary and in the smuggling of goods over the Czech-Polish border. Illegal Jewish refugees are provided with forged passports and papers, and young Jews are organised to help in smuggling them through to Germany, France and Italy en route for Palestine.

The activities of the TESCHEN Jewish community are financed from a special Jewish National Fund in PRAGUE by a certain BOCK, who is head of the whole Jewish community of Czechoslovakia, and whose H.Q. is at Maislova Str. 18, PRAGUE. I. Members of the TESCHEN Jewish organisation include the following:-

> Mr. WERTHEIMER-SIMON 2 brothers FEIGENBAUM Mr. KLAUSENSTOCK & 2 sisters Mr. AMSTERDAM Mr. ADLER Josef TELLER Miss FISHEIMER & sister Messrs. PILLER (3-4 brothers & cousin).

One of the most active and dangerous of the above-mentioned is reported to be Miss FISHEIMER, who is employed in a small sweetshop in Stalina Str. 16, CZECH-TESCHEN, run by another woman who is engaged in similar activities. Miss FISHEIMER's sister works in the next town, through which the escaping Jews also pass.

The PILLER brothers and cousin are described as the most dangerous amongst the men, one of the brothers being stationed at TURIN, where he is a leader of the Jewish underground organisation. Source gives the address of a hiding-place where illegal Jewish refugees are to be found as Vitkova Str. 13, CZECH-TESCHEN.

The principal interest in this is the mention it makes of Mr. AMSTERDAM. He is presumably identical with Alfred AMSTERDAM of Koci 18, PRESSBURG, a known contact of Arthur PIER @ BEN ZWI, an Austrian Jew journalist representing PALCOR and various other Palestinian news agencies in Austria, Germany and the mid-European countries. PIER has for some time been an active member of the BRICHA organisation which, as you know, assists Jews from Eastern Europe to reach European ports en route for Palestine. PIER, who operates from Frankgasse 2, VIENNA, controls the Austrian side of this movement and also travels regularly to the U.S. Zone of Germany in this

/connection.

J.G.S. Beith, Esq., Foreign Office.

J. Higham, Esq., Colonial Office.

Major P. Telfer-Smollett, M.C., M.I.3(a), War Office. Telephone Nos. REENT 6050. WEITEHALL 6789.

BOX No. 500, PARLIAMENT STREET B.O., LONDON, S.W.1.

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connection. Before arriving in Austria he lived at an agricultural centre in Palestine, and is now hoping to become a Palestinian citizen. His contact with AMSTERDAM may well indicate that the TESCHEN group is part of the BRICHA organisation.

- 2 -

At almost the same time as we received the TESCHEN report, information was obtained on another Jewish organisation with which AMSTERDAM is connected. This is the "International Association for the Assistance of ex-Concentration Camp Inmates and Refugees", based at the Rothschild Hospital, VIENNA. The Association has branches in BRATISLAVA, PRAGUE and BUDAPEST, and a certain Jakub WEISS and Arthur PIER, among others, are actively engaged on its behalf in transporting groups of Jews into Austria, whence they presumably move to coastal areas. The crossing of the Austro-Czech frontier is made at MARCHEGG, DEVINSKA, NOVA VES and other small villages. The representative of the Association in BRATISLAVA is Alfred AMSTERDAM, while PRAGUE and BUDAPEST are covered by Friedl RAFFI and by Dr. Alexander NATHAN respectively.

RAFFI is probably identical with Friedl OFFI of Josefska 7, PRAGUE, a known BRICHA address. OFFI has been known for some time as a contact of PIER. If this identification is correct, it seems likely that the International Association is yet another Jewish group either sponsored by or closely collaborating with the BRICHA organisation.

Yours sincerely,

J. J. Schow

D.J. Scherr.

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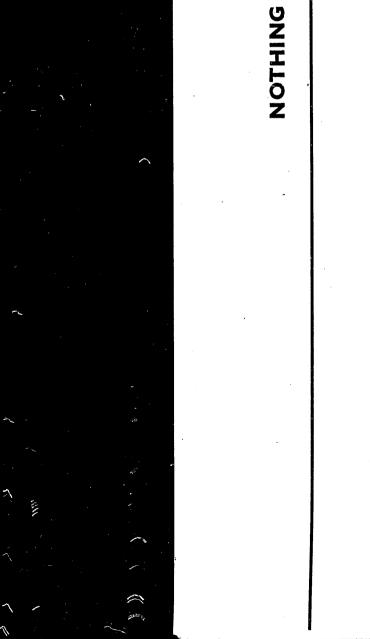
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and

OFFICE, S.W.l. No. E 38621/48/6 FOREIGN J.E.C. 131 May 1947. Top Secret. Confidential. Restricted. SECRET Dear Robertson, Robertson. We receive a number of reports from you dept on various aspects of Jewish illegal immigration into Palestine. In many cases these reports contain information on activities in a particular country or countries, which would obviously be of great interest to our (from Mr. Beith) Mission in the country affected. Unfortunately it is not always clear to us whether or not the Mission has already received this information Though it usualy to morprives that they have. It would greatly assist us if, as a general rule, you would inform the appropriate courd receive and infor . dweit on your letter Missions pis would enable us to draw the my8 to usthis he noted attention of the Mission to your report without the necessity of ourselves copying it to them. Furthermore it would do away with the need for us to ring up your office every time we

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receive a report, in order to enquire whether it had actually been passed to the Mission concerned or not.

An example of the type of report I mean is SCHERR'S Sherr's letter (SF 215/3 B3A/ES) of 30th April about illegal Jewish activities in the Czech-This report will obviously Teschen district. Embasy ut Minister in Prague and I have be valuable to our Minist asked Mr. shorr to arrange for M.I.6 to pass it to him gud poistly also I would be most grateful if you could

arrange for future reports to be handled an

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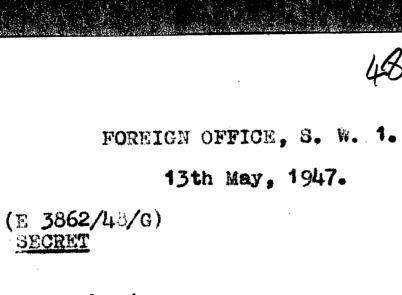
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Dear Robertson,

We receive a number of reports from your department on various aspects of Jewish illegal immigration into Palestine. In many cases these reports contain information on activities in a particular country or countries, which would obviously be of great interest to our Mission in the country affected. Unfortunately it is not always clear to us whether or not the Mission has already received this information, though it usually transpires that they have.

It would greatly assist us if, as a general rule, the appropriate Missions could

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T. A. Robertson, Esg., M.I.5.

49 Reference: COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON receive such information direct and this fact could be noted on your letter to us as a matter of routine. Yours summerel JE. Cable fa 371 (J. G. S. Beith) 81806

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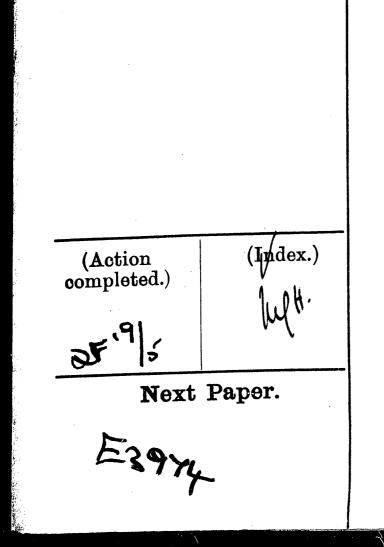
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of the Public Records Act, 1958

E3943/G 50 Mil & stin 1947 EASTERN 22 MAY Regal fusich Immigration. 1 3943 HYC Rep. to HO. the no 12/ E3513/48/51 The Jorder Muister dos Goseign Affans Requigalpa. Las approved record of ecusersations Tel. no. 16. ships make the regarding May 9th flag Hondubas This is what we wanted. Please see £3513 Last Paper. E389b bofies los : Colminating Rolonial JUffice M. 1. 5 (usual names) References. (J.E.CABLE) 13/5 (Print.) Ē, 61806 LON DON (How disposed of.) 8) MI 5 Adty C.0 174 Tay



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Mr Fewler. No:16

9th May 1947

R 2.55 a.m. 10th May 1947

DEPARTMENTAL

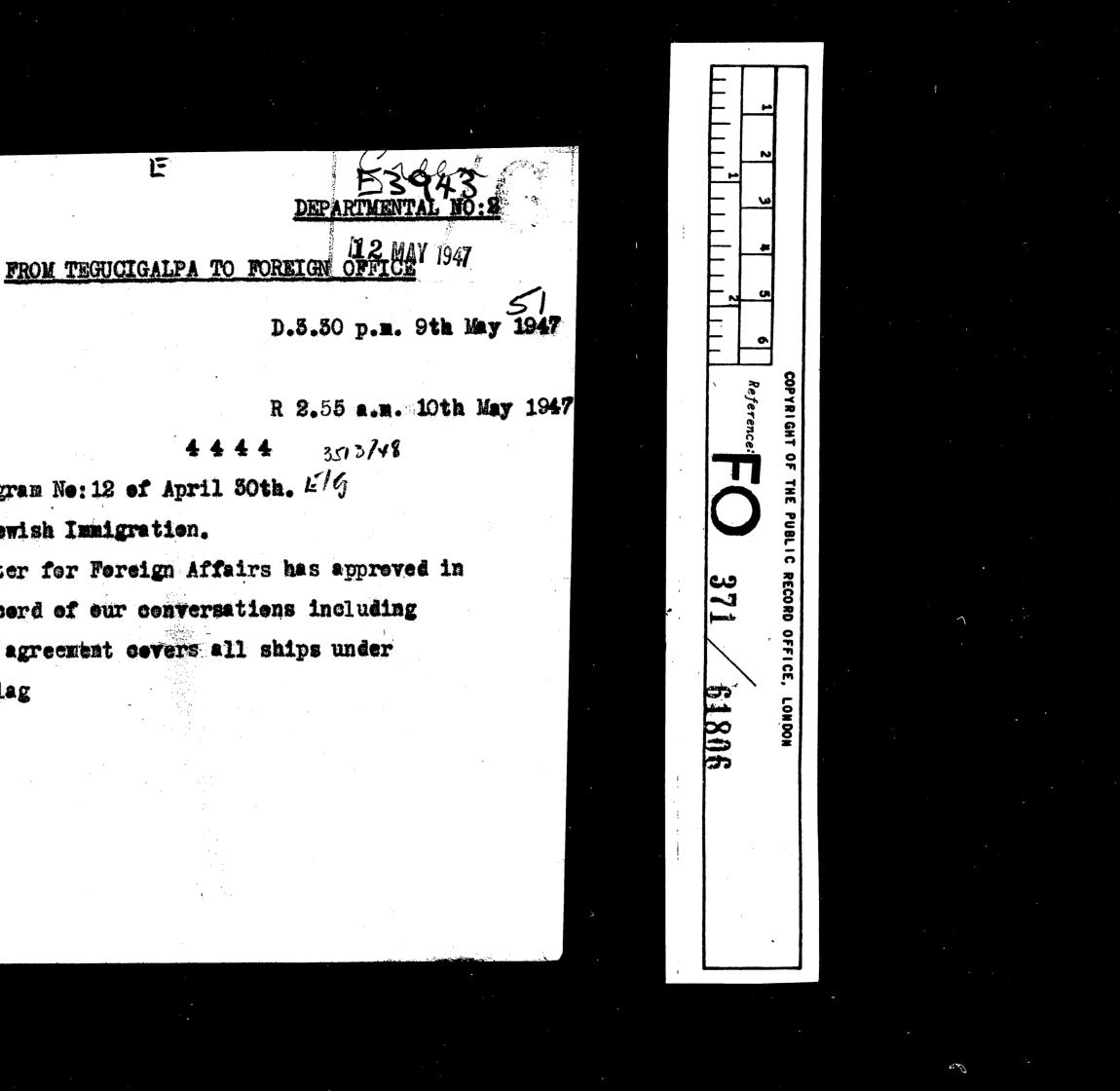
3513/48 Your telegram No: 12 of April 30th. ENG Illegal Jewish Immigration.

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The Minister for Foreign Affairs has approved in writing the record of our conversations including Statement that agreement covers all ships under the Honduras flag

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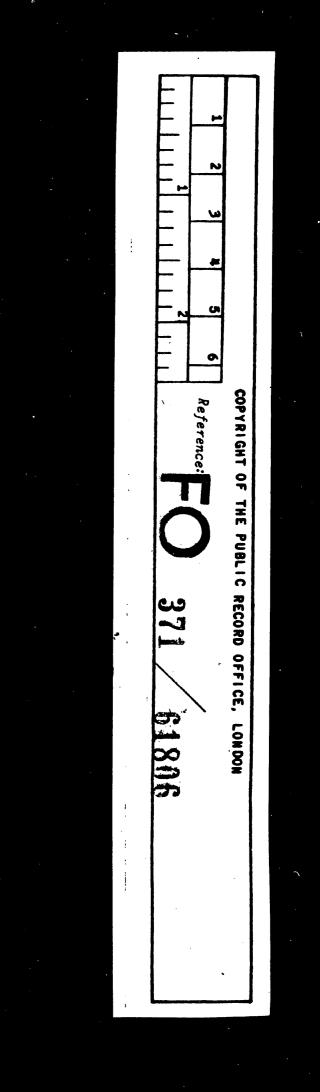
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216 52 E_3947 1947 PALESTINE 13-MAY Religat Rumigration, Waling in France. Registry Number E 3947/48/31 Repar Paris 61 392. 3979/2011 **FELEGRAM FROM** Tale atmayhere of making decidedly friendly considers french an propared to make genuine plant li hip in wheney this trapper. files faither point. W Liff booyer No. Paris 393 12, May 1947 Dated Received in Registry (Minutes.) Please sie alw NO. 382 av E3979 attached. Delle German Deft. 121/v. Verten Deft. 13/5 Last Paper. 3946 C. J. F. LABLE) References. The Embassy at Paris are of course very keen ಲ that we should meet the French Government over ~1 recruitment of German workers, and I know that Mr. Ashley Clarke would wish Eastern Department to (Print.) support this telegram. _ It certainly is true that the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs have been juite forthcoming in our recent discussions on 61806 illegal immigration. Unfortunately, they do not (How disposed of.) control other Government departments. I feel that we can hardly press that satisfaction be given 1.1. nort quickly to the French Government over German workers at present. Later on, if French control of illegal immigration proves really effective at last, the position will be quite different. May 13. My J. Beni (J.G.S. Beith)17th May, 1947. Vison the fourt of new of lies term deft. The question of Kerman warkers for V-sauce has a different aspect. (Index.) (Action tant l'o remember (a) that completed.) nothing a hateres to do as the has 160 1 (k)the transit Lews Next Paper. assist the Trench 3974 32003 F.O.P

rat to extract concessions in other fields. Negoliations are proceeding on this basis (33 1 hm Hog Uni is a bit out of date, nour. Botune 13 Refere COPYRIGHT OI 37 OFFICE, 61806 LONDON

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 <u>BEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.</u>

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 <u>DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.</u>

 <u>FROM PÁRIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE</u>

 Mr. Duff Ceeper.

 D: 1.10 2.m. 13th May, 1947.

 No. 393.

 12th May, 1947.

 R: 4.15 2.m. 13th May, 1947.

Repeated to: Berlin.

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MOST IMMEDIATE

Foreign Office please repeat to Berlin as my telegram No. 59.

My immediately preceding telegram.

SECRET

Illegal Jewish immigration.

Atmosphere of meeting was decidedly friendly and I consider that French are prepared to make genuine effort to help in checking this traffic. Scrutiny of visas of ultimate destination and strict enforcement of safety of life at sea regulations which we had already been promised combined [grp.undec. ? with] stoppage of irregular trains entering French zones of Germany and Austria should result in greatly diminishing flow of illegal immigrants through France. [grp.undec.] measures which we managed to secure though secondary should also contribute to this end.

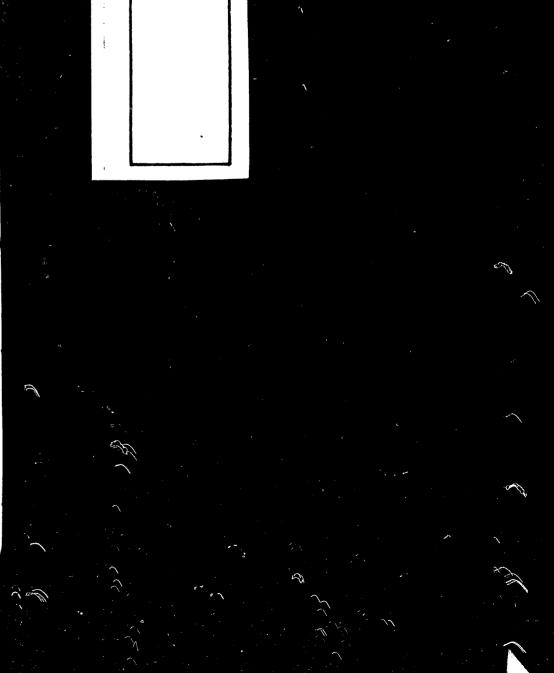
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2. It is essential however that we should co-operate by receiving back into our zones persons clandestinely entering French zones from [grps.undec.] persuading Americans to do likewise.

3. Naturally French response to our demands is partly inspired by a lively sense of favours to come and I trust that your instructions on subject of German labour will be such as to enable us to clinch matter. I should emphasise that much depends on manner in which French carry out these measures. Some of them such as administrative delay of ships in ballast are highly unofficial. But I believe that French authorities especially these coming under Department of Merchant Marine will in fact effectively carry them out. They will be the more encouraged to do so if our response to French requirements over recruitment of labour is generous.

We agreed that there should be no publicity.

Som [Repeated to Berlin.]



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